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## U.S., in Shift, Would Recognize Independent Ukraine

By Andrew Rosenthal  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — President George Bush has authorized a major shift in U.S. policy away from the central Soviet government and toward the republics, deciding to recognize an independent Ukraine "expediently" if the second-largest Soviet republic breaks with Moscow in a referendum on Sunday, American officials say.

Independence fever in the Ukraine is running high, and administration officials say they expect the Ukrainians will vote to separate from the Soviet Union. In that case, Washington will start trying to strengthen its ties with the Ukraine immediately, but will delay formal diplomatic recognition for some time, perhaps weeks, the officials said.

Instead, in hopes of setting a pattern for demands from other republics for similar

Europe is not planning to move quickly to recognize Ukrainian independence. Page 2.

treatment, U.S. recognition of the Ukraine will be timed according to the speed with which the Ukrainians move to ease U.S. concerns on human rights, ethnic tensions, disarmament and control over nuclear weapons, officials said.

The Gorbachev government responded Thursday with a statement of pained surprise.

"This report is surprising, the more so as it appeared on the eve of the referendum," the Kremlin declared in a press statement from the office of President Mikhail S. Gorbachev in Moscow.

The brief comment, with its allusion to past Bush endorsements of the union in the face of separatist pressures, amounted to a clear complaint that the reported shift in U.S. policy was premature and an unwelcome comment on the "internal affairs of the U.S.S.R."

On Aug. 1, less than three weeks before the abortive hard-line coup in Moscow, Mr. Bush delivered a speech in Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, warning against what he called "nationalist nationalism" and saying that the United States would not choose sides between Moscow and the restive republics.

On Wednesday, administration officials said the president was prepared eventually to open an embassy in Kiev and establish diplomatic relations with an independent country that has its own foreign, military and economic policies. It is unclear, however, how far the Ukrainians will go in severing all of their ties to the central government.

Still, Mr. Bush's willingness to recognize full independence if the Ukrainians choose it represents the first real challenge from Washington to the central Soviet government's ability to hold together its ragged union,



A woman in Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, exhorting passers-by on Thursday to vote for her preferred candidate in Sunday's election.

which would be seriously undermined by the independence of the second-largest of the 12 remaining republics, one that supplies much of the country's industrial and agricultural output.

American support for Ukrainian independence also threatens one of Mr. Gorbachev's remaining threads of power: Mr. Bush's explicit, and hitherto often-proffered, endorsement of Mr. Gorbachev as the sole legitimate repository of sovereignty in the Soviet Union.

There was no formal announcement of Mr. Bush's decision, which officials said was made on Tuesday at an Oval Office meeting with his top foreign-policy advisers and conveyed to a group of Ukrainian-Americans at

a White House meeting on Wednesday.

They said that Mr. Gorbachev "is aware" of Mr. Bush's plans but that his reaction was not known. "We've spoken to the Ukrainians and the Russians about this, and they're the ones that count," one official said.

White House officials said the reaction of Boris N. Yeltsin, the president of the Russian Republic, was also unknown.

After the vote Sunday, one official said, Mr. Bush will initially issue "a strong statement supporting Ukrainian aspirations."

That will be followed by a strengthening of Russian-American relations and "sooner rather than later" by full diplomatic recognition.

Administration officials said Mr. Bush was deliberately not setting any timetable for full recognition of the Ukraine to avoid the appearance of hesitation that marked his recognition of the Baltic nations and to see how Ukrainian policy develops in the areas outlined by the United States in recent contacts with Ukrainian officials.

For months since the aborted Kremlin coup in mid-August, Mr. Bush clung to a policy of supporting the central government in Moscow, and in particular Mr. Gorbachev, despite growing evidence that Mr. Gorbachev

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## Trivialities At the Talks Both Sides Maneuver To Influence U.S. Role

By Jackson Diehl  
Washington Post Service

JERUSALEM — The latest dispute over the timing of Middle East peace negotiations has shown that Israel and the Arab states continue to be preoccupied with almost every aspect of the bargaining process except the issues of substance that the talks are supposed to resolve.

In inviting Israel and four Arab neighbors to a new round of bilateral negotiations next week in Washington, the Bush administration had hoped to encourage the first discussions on the essence of the conflict — ranging from Israel's occupation of Syrian and Lebanese territory, to

### NEWS ANALYSIS

its proposals for peace treaties with neighboring states, to self-rule for Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

But for both Israel and the Arabs, the major issues of the Washington meeting continue to lie elsewhere, in the vague but seemingly crucial struggle to define the nature of the latest peace process.

For both sides, the Washington talks are mainly about demarcating the role that the United States will play in the bargaining, setting the pace at which the process will move and determining whether negotiations will be linked to U.S. aid to Israel.

It is these broad, if essentially tangential, concerns that underlie the apparently trivial squabbling among Israel, the Arabs and the Bush administration over the date and format of the Washington talks as well as the location of future rounds. Until these disputes are played out, it seems, neither the Israelis nor the Arabs will be prepared to engage in serious negotiations.

"Much more than trivial procedure is involved here," a senior Israeli official said Thursday. "We are engaged in a tug-of-war about what this whole process will be about, how it will be conducted — even how it will turn out. It may not be obvious from the outside, but we are dealing with vital issues."

The conflicts are important because Israel and the Arabs imagine the peace negotiations in entirely different ways. For Israel, the process should be long, slow and low-key. It should take place in the Middle East and involve a minimum of intervention by the United States, the Soviet Union and other outside powers.

That is because Israel believes it will take a long grind to wear down the expectations, both

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## Israel Gives Few Signs of Compromise On Meeting

Future of Peace Effort  
Cloudy, but Americans  
Retain Some Optimism

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

JERUSALEM — Israel on Thursday stuck to its decision to delay Middle East peace talks beyond the date set by the United States, but Israeli officials indicated some willingness to compromise.

The future of the talks, which the U.S. government had hoped to open Dec. 4 in Washington, has been plunged into confusion by Israel's insistence on the delay.

Senior American officials conceded that U.S. efforts to restart negotiations were in serious trouble, but they said they were not ready to give up hope.

Washington rebuffed the Israelis on Wednesday, calling the timing disagreement "childish." Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and the Palestinians have all accepted the Dec. 4 starting date.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's chief of staff, Yossi Ben-Aharon, when asked by Israeli radio on Thursday when he planned to travel to Washington, said, "The 9th."

He added: "This is the decision of the government, and we will carry it out."

But in an interview one hour later with Israeli Army radio, Mr. Ben-Aharon said he hoped for "some kind of compromise."

He did not make clear what Israel was willing to compromise on. Asked whether the compromise would involve a starting date somewhere between Dec. 4 and Dec. 9, he said, "I don't know."

Mr. Ben-Aharon heads the Israeli team chosen to negotiate with the Syrians.

"We have to pull from the hearts of our Arab partners the belief that the American government is on their side and wants to hold negotiations that are a cover for American pressure on Israel," he said on Israeli radio.

He said Israel was sticking to its demand that the negotiations be direct, without U.S. mediation, and that their venue move speedily from Washington to the Middle East or nearby.

Mr. Ben-Aharon asserted: "We have to insist on the position we have proposed: to insist that the negotiations will be in the region, direct, and that there won't be the involvement of a third party, meaning the United States, in the content of the negotiations."

Benjamin Netanyahu, a deputy minister in Mr. Shamir's office, was asked by Israeli radio whether the Israelis would be in Washington on Dec. 4.

"I assume not," he replied.

But he added that the timing was "definitely not a matter of principle but of practicality."

Israel believes that the Arabs, by agreeing to meet with Israeli officials in the Middle East, would demonstrate willingness to accept the Jewish state's existence. Arabs have refused to hold the talks in the Middle East, saying that it would imply recognition of Israel.

Israel also asked the United States to stagger the talks, to prevent Arab nations from forming a united front. Israel wants to negotiate separately with each delegation — Syrian, Lebanese and Jordanian-Palestinian — with breaks of four or five days between each meeting.

American officials said they doubted that the Arabs would wait five days if the Israelis made good their threat not to go to Washington on Wednesday.

"The Israelis will either show up or not on Wednesday," a senior official said, "and if they don't, the Arabs will either wait around for them or they won't. We don't know, obviously, but it looks as if the whole thing could fall apart if Jerusalem doesn't bend a little in the next four or five days."

(AP, NYT)

## Maastricht and Beyond: From the Workplace to the Dinner Table

### For the British, a Shying Away From a European Social Agenda

By Tom Redburn  
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Is the fate of the whole European Union treaty at Maastricht hanging on such seemingly minor threads as Sunday hours, maternity leave and minimum standards for working conditions?

Not completely, but if anything is likely to produce a last-minute breakdown at the EC summit meeting in the Netherlands on Dec. 9-10, it is the little-old dispute between Britain and its 11 partners over carrying out a European social agenda.

"The imposition of the social charter is just as much a shibboleth for the British government as the imposition of a common currency," said Richard Portes, director of the Center for Economic Policy Research in London. "That is a subject on which John Major is never going to accept majority voting."

On Thursday, Mr. Major gave an upbeat assessment to his cabinet, telling them he

made significant progress toward reaching an overall deal in talks with Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany and Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti of Italy. After meeting with Mr. Kohl on Wednesday night, the British prime minister said there was "a long way still to go, but we are edging forward."

Still, like Horatius at the bridge, Britain

Germany is ready to compromise if EC unification process is irreversible. Page 2.

stands alone against a powerful army of opponents who want to see the European Community assume greater responsibility for broad areas of social legislation. Instead of the current practice under which all such decisions must be approved unanimously by the Twelve, Jacques Delors, the president of the EC Commission, European trade unions and other European governments would like rules on issues like maximum hours of work,

social security coverage and minimum holidays settled by qualified majority voting. With such a change, Britain would no longer have a veto over such legislation.

Most European leaders are continuing to press Mr. Major to give ground. Mr. Andreotti told reporters, after meeting with Mr. Kohl on Thursday in Bonn, that the Community must pay more attention to social issues in its summit talks. "We are concerned that social aspects of European union might be undervalued," Mr. Andreotti said.

But Brussels, eager to prevent a train wreck at Maastricht that could derail a historic treaty, is trying to avoid a collision.

On Wednesday, the Community postponed until after the Maastricht summit meeting consideration of a proposal to offer an opinion on minimum wages. Even though the plan would not be binding, it raised

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### For the French, Raw Emotion Over Camembert

By Marilee Simons  
New York Times Service

CAMEMBERT, France — In the normally placid valleys around the village of Camembert, the damp air is stirring with preparations for a battle between bacteria and bioreactors.

Angry charges are being fired at far-off city people who want to drive the flavor out of life, squelch aroma, assassinate the character of cheeses and create a united Europe with a dull blanket of sameness.

At issue here is the true nature of Camembert, the creamy ambassador of France's cheeses, which in the heart of Normandy for the past 200 years has been made from raw, unpasteurized milk.

Wait a minute, the bureaucrats at the European Community headquarters in Brussels are now saying as they crank out rules for a borderless 1993. New norms that will govern the lives of 340 million Europeans also in-

volve unifying standards for what they should breathe and what they can drink and eat, including germs.

In a continent full of cottage industries, the rules of Brussels have been multiplying. Bans on additives in Spanish wine and German sausage, for instance, were imposed almost unnoticed. But now a verdict looms about the level of bacteria allowed in cheese — all cheeses — which is why there is such agitation around the cow pastures of France.

"This could mean the loss of a whole wealth of very French flavors," said Claire Marcellin of the Normandy Milk Union. "If you kill all the bad bacteria, you also kill the good ones. You eliminate those that provide the aroma and the taste."

Ms. Marcellin was referring to some 50 million wheels of Camembert — one-tenth of France's annual production of the cheese —

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## Serbs May Try to Kill Genscher, Germany Says

International Herald Tribune

Serbian terrorists have targeted the German foreign minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, because of his government's support for Croatian independence, a spokesman for Germany's criminal investigation service said Thursday.

The spokesman said that Serbian assassins may be planning attacks against politicians in other European countries who have expressed sympathy for the secessionist republic of Croatia.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl said Thursday that Germany may be close to recognizing the Croatian republic.

"I think we have to come to a decision before Christmas," he said in Bonn after a meeting with the Italian prime minister, Giulio Andreotti.

"We want as many European countries as possible to do this together," Mr. Kohl said.

Germany also announced that it was more than doubling emergency

humanitarian aid to Croatia, bringing the total to nearly 17 million Deutsche marks (almost \$11 million).

Germany, which historically played an influential role in the Balkans along with Austria, the former imperial power, has been foremost among

The UN secretary-general hopes to send a force to Croatia soon. Page 2.

European countries pressing for recognition of Croatia and Slovenia.

The president of Croatia, Franjo Tudjman, was scheduled to visit Bonn next week to discuss preparations for possible recognition.

The Serbian media have bitterly attacked Germany, accusing it of seeking to set up a "Fourth Reich." Serbian irregulars and the Serbian-dominated Yugoslav armed forces have been battling Croats in the civil

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## Not Soviet, Not Russian, Not Seceding

By Gary Lee  
Washington Post Service

KALININGRAD, U.S.S.R. — In a tiny apartment in this ancient Baltic coast city, in the shadow of gilded mansions where German aristocrats once lived, a group of local residents meets regularly to ponder how to break away from the Soviet empire.

The question is popular in Central Asia, the Caucasus region and other far reaches of the Soviet Union. But the history that hangs over this former outpost of the German Reich, where, as far back as the 14th century, kings came to be crowned, gives it added meaning.

"We are not spiritually a part of Russia, and we are certainly not Soviet," said Tatyana Bunderzeit, a member of the Kaliningrad-based Society of Old Prussia, which gathers weekly to discuss how to restore the region's pre-Soviet traditions and gain independence. "If any area deserves to be free, we do."

But the majority of Kaliningrad's population of 900,000 does not appear to favor independence or identify with the region's German past, according to local officials.

Most of the current residents were sent in after World War II to buttress the Soviet hold on the area.

"When most of the younger generation here think of Germany, they think of fascists," said Boris Shishkin, a teacher at Kaliningrad's Polytechnic Institute. "They do not want to be associated with it."

The Russian president, Boris N. Yeltsin, made a campaign stop in Kaliningrad in April and pledged to keep the region under Russian control.

"This was German territory," said Nikolai Gripiuk, Kaliningrad's deputy mayor, in an interview. "But that is all history. We are part of Russia now. And we are going to keep being part of Russia, as far as I know."

This flat area of 15,500 square kilometers (6,000 square miles) was founded in 1302 as East Prussia. In 1701, it became part of Germany and was named Königsberg. Captured by Russian troops in 1945 after one of World War II's most violent battles, it was claimed by Stalin at the postwar Potsdam conference

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A Cambodian watching the battered Khmer Rouge villa in Pimom Peh where the group's leader, Khieu Samphan, took refuge from a mob on Wednesday. Page 7.

### General News

A tax-cut waltz has George Bush flip-flopping and the Democrats pouncing. Page 3.

The Khmer Rouge vows to press ahead with peace process despite attack on its leader. Page 7.

Libya refused to hand over Lockerbie bombing suspects. Page 6.

### Business/Finance

Sony is said to be joining Apple and Motorola in a computer venture. Page 11.

East Asia has ambitious plans to build satellites. Page 11.

Libya refused to hand over Lockerbie bombing suspects. Page 6.

### Leisure

Rooms at the Inn: Wondering how cheaply you can find a room in a ski resort, or how much Caribbean luxury costs? A guide to prices for a week's stay in a villa or a studio. And if you want to spend the year-end festivities in a hotel, you can take advantage of the low season. Roger Collis reports. Also in Leisure, pages 8 and 9: You have half an hour to buy a friend a book for his birthday, so you consult the best-seller list to see what everybody's reading. Have you ever wondered who "everybody" is? Richard E. Smith reports.

### Kiosk

## Millions Outside Russia Assured of Citizenship

MOSCOW (Reuters) — The Russian Republic recognized Russian citizenship on Thursday for millions of people living outside its borders, including those in republics having secured or still seeking independence from Moscow.

The Russian Information Agency said a new citizenship law passed by the Russian parliament would also grant rights to cultural figures stripped of their Soviet citizenship when they left the country and to 400,000 emigrants who moved to Israel. The law is important to the 26 million Russians who live outside the vast Russian Republic, particularly in the three newly independent Baltic republics and in the Ukraine, which holds an independence referendum on Sunday.

The agency said the law made it impossible to deprive a Russian of his citizenship and would extend it to 175 cultural figures who lost their Soviet citizenship when they left the country. It also granted rights to those who automatically lost their Soviet citizenship when they left for Israel, which restored diplomatic relations with Moscow last month after a break of 24 years.

The agency said the law extended rights specifically to those who had not adopted local citizenship "to take into account the difficult situation in interregional relations, including a possible increase in the number of refugees."



## In Moscow, a Bold (and Frustrated) Economist

By Francis X. Clines  
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — Larisa Piyasheva's free-market economics are so blunt and zealous that it was considered a coup two weeks ago when she was hired by the city to plot Moscow's transition to showcase capitalism.

But this week, Miss Piyasheva was debating whether to quit the sack of fighting cats that public service is becoming in these nebulous first months of post-Communist freedom.

Her plan to quickly end state ownership of all the city's stores, restaurants and factories — the most ambitious privatization plan thus far in the hobbled Soviet empire — was being overruled by some of the very politicians hawking change.

"I am heartbroken," said Miss Piyasheva, a 43-year-old economics professor who was lured into the public arena as one of the nation's most progressive and outspoken market economists.

After a career in theorizing from the outside, Miss Piyasheva wasted no time in office, in days drafting a plan to turn thousands of Moscow enterprises over in the workers to buy and manage, lock, stock and empty barrel, starting Dec. 1.

"I'm not going to be a party in creating a system for the mere leasing of socialism," she complained of recommendations for compromise.

Miss Piyasheva is just one theorist only two weeks into one part of the amorphous contest over how best to try to move to capitalism.

But for her, the early reluctance by those in authority to accept fundamental changes amounts in defeat.

She already criticizes President Boris N. Yeltsin of the Russian Republic for not moving ahead with his promise to end state price controls, complaining that his delay only feeds inflationary fears without speeding the changes in prices, jobs and wages that can revive the economy.

"To me the question is either we truly transfer to the market or we don't," she said, not hiding her impatience.

She says that the pain of altering the system will be worth it to the public and that politicians should not promise an economy "partly pregnant" with capitalism.

"The grannies won't die when private business is restored and people finally have some incentive to produce as much as they can and as much as they need," she said.

Miss Piyasheva's cold-turkey approach, in which enter-

prises left unbought by workers would be put up for public auction with foreign investors allowed, seems a coup of a different color to traditionalists in the remains of the frayed, deeply worried Soviet nation. She would leave most of the city's establishments free to be sold or radically changed by investors if they sense more-promising deals.

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against it as too severe for these hard times. Last week she appealed to the office of Mr. Yeltsin, the Russian president, who is becoming the de facto czar of all radical change.

On Tuesday morning, seated in her office with a 20th-floor view of a bleak, gray day, Miss Piyasheva was elated by the word that Mr. Yeltsin had signed still another overnight ukase — one in the now endless series of emergency orders — and that she had reportedly prevailed.

"We live in a country of words," she said. "This is a wonderland of words — of resignations, of puteshes, of cabinet shuffles. Let's see: it's 11 A.M. and I'm told I've won my plan. But there may be new words. It all may change by nightfall."

By 3 P.M., Miss Piyasheva was proved right.

Word came of the Yeltsin team's negative reaction to her plan, which she intends as only the first step in a privatization scheme to open the city to unfettered land development and business construction — again, in a matter of months.

"The plan has so much support," she said, considering resignation but rejecting it as just more of the words she loathes. She turned with a rescue appeal to Gavril K. Popov, the Moscow mayor, a market economist and her original patron in the invitation to start doing something dramatic about private enterprise.

By nightfall, Mr. Popov sided with her, signing his own ukase that her privatization should go ahead and thereby setting up conflict, if only in more words, with the privatization plans of Mr. Yeltsin's staff. Such is the nature of transition these days.

"Privatization starts as of now," Miss Piyasheva proclaimed, heading into another gray day of the vague, disquieting transition with no one yet jumping in her orders. "We'll see whether they try to block me again."

Miss Piyasheva had won the public's hearts four years ago by writing a stinging indictment of Communist management when it was still officially revered.

Muscovites fondly recall her homespun econometric maxim that the rivalry of communism and market economies comes down in the question, "Whose pies are fluffier?"

Today the operative question for the economist, neither a clear winner nor loser yet in the very state transition, appeared to be, "Whose tide is tougher?"

Europeans Are Wary On Ukraine

By Stephen Kinzer  
New York Times Service

BOON — European governments, preoccupied with the civil war in Yugoslavia, are not planning to move quickly toward recognizing Ukrainian independence even if the republic's voters favor independence in a referendum Sunday.

Officials in Bonn, London and Paris said their governments would not respond directly to a reported shift in U.S. policy placing more emphasis on dealing with Soviet republics rather than the central government.

"It is important that the union, defended at all costs by Mr. Gorbachev, prevails in the end," President Francois Mitterrand said when he welcomed President Mikhail S. Gorbachev to France last month.

"Each republic has full rights to choose its own destiny, and France is ready to have cooperative relations with those republics who so desire," Mr. Mitterrand said. "But today Mr. Gorbachev is president of the union, and represents his country."

A spokesman for the French Foreign Ministry said Thursday that Mr. Mitterrand had not modified this view.

Over the last few months, the United States has been in regular contact with its European allies over ways in deal with the splintering Soviet Union. But officials said the United States did not notify allied governments that it was preparing for possible quick recognition of Ukrainian independence.

An official in the British Foreign Office said that President George Bush "did not ring us up and tell us that he was going to do this."

But he said the policy change by the United States was "squarely within the range of what we would expect, given the consultations we have had."

"What he did was no surprise to us," he said.

European officials were reluctant to say in advance how they would react to a pro-independence vote in the Ukraine on Sunday. But all said they were concerned about what one official called "certain questions" brought up by the prospect of Ukrainian independence.

Among these questions are minority rights in the Ukraine, respect for international treaties and debt commitments, and control over nuclear weapons.

German officials are reluctant to strengthen their relationship with the Ukraine and other Soviet republics because, for a variety of political and economic reasons, they do not want to weaken Mr. Gorbachev.

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"There should not be a question of dealing either with the republics or with the center," the official said. "We deal with both."

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## UN May Act In Days as Yugoslav Truce Holds

Reuters

BELGRADE — Yugoslavia's cease-fire held firm on Thursday, and the United Nations secretary-general, Javier Perez de Cuellar, said he hoped to urge the Security Council within days to send peace-keeping troops to Croatia.

The UN mediator, Cyrus R. Vance, is expected to arrive in Yugoslavia this weekend to discuss where the UN force should be deployed with Croatian and Serbian leaders.

The only fighting reported Thursday in the conflict between Croatia and the Serbian-led Yugoslav Army was in the Novska region, 100 kilometers (60 miles) west of Zagreb. The 14th cease-fire in the war was signed on Saturday. Its enforcement is considered vital before UN forces are deployed.

Croatian radio said the army attacked villages around Novska, an ethnically mixed area, with artillery, mortars and infantry. But army spokesmen told the Tanjug press agency that Croats opened fire first and that federal forces responded.

The radio reported minor incidents in the east Croatian city of Osijek, where it said 19 people were killed Wednesday in an army bombardment.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar said after meeting with President Francois Mitterrand in Paris that UN officials were working on the deployment of international peacekeepers.

"Once I have all the necessary information, then I shall go to the Security Council, and hope to be able to do that within four, five, six days," he said. Mr. Perez de Cuellar has said that up to 9,000 UN troops might be needed.

The Serbian foreign minister, Vukobrat Jovanovic, said at a press conference on Thursday: "The primary purpose of the deployment would be to separate the fighting sides and to protect the civilian population."

Serbia wants the UN force to be stationed on the frontlines in Croatia, where the army and Serbian irregulars have seized a third of the rebel republic's territory. Croatia wants them on the pre-war borders.

Serbia, which previously opposed the presence of foreign troops in Yugoslavia, changed its stance earlier this month and appealed for UN intervention to stop the fighting.

The army and the guerrillas have largely achieved their objectives in gains over territory claimed by the 600,000 Serbian minority in Croatia.

General Marko Negovanovic, a hard-line member of the army's supreme council, defended the army's performance and warned that it was equipped to continue the war.

General Negovanovic told the Belgrade newspaper Vozdruze Novosti that the army had defeated Croatian forces. "We have enough, not only of oil, but of everything else, needed for the war," he said.

Paris Recalls Envoy From New Zealand

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — France recalled its ambassador from New Zealand for consultations on Thursday and it hoped the arrest of a French secret agent in Switzerland would not reopen a dispute with Wellington over the sinking of a Greenpeace ship.

The secret agent, Giraldo Andrieu, accused of taking part in the 1985 bombing of the anti-nuclear protest ship Rainbow Warrior, was detained Saturday in Basel on a murder warrant issued by New Zealand.

The Wellington police have begun procedures to seek his extradition.

A photographer for the environmentalist group Greenpeace died when French agents planted bombs under the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland shortly before it was due to sail to protest French nuclear testing in Polynesia.

A French spokesman said Paris believed the entire saga had been settled by an agreement under which France apologized and paid compensation to New Zealand and to the victim's family.

In return, Wellington handed back two French agents who had been tried and imprisoned for their roles in the affair.

"As far as we are concerned, this affair was closed by an agreement concluded between France and New Zealand," said a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry.

He described the recall of Ambassador Gabriel de Regnaud de Bellesme for consultations as a normal procedure.

A spokeswoman for Prime Minister Jim Bolger said the government was informed of Mr. de Bellesme's departure. "It was not an unusual step in these situations," she said.

The reopening of the case has led to a resurgence of anti-French sentiment in New Zealand. The Evening Post in Wellington headlined an editorial, "No Deals — France Can't Be Trusted," and radio talk shows have been inundated with calls saying that reviving the case could jeopardize relations.

(Reuters, AP)

## WORLD BRIEFS

### China Is 'on Course' for Israel Ties

BEIJING (NYT) — China's foreign minister was quoted Thursday as saying that China and Israel were gradually heading toward an eventual establishment of diplomatic relations.

China, the only one of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council not to recognize Israel, has good relations with Arab countries but has moved slowly in recent years to develop ties with Israel. Some Chinese officials say they believe that after establishment of relations, China would be able to play a role in Middle East peace negotiations.

Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, a Jewish human-rights organization based in Los Angeles, said that Foreign Minister Qian Qichen had given positive signals about relations with Israel during a meeting Thursday. "We're on course for a gradual and progressive approach with the ultimate goal of restoring normal relations," Mr. Qian said, according to Rabbi Hier's notes.

2 IRA Bombings in Belfast Wound 8

BELFAST (AP) — IRA bombs exploded near a Belfast hotel and the law courts Thursday, wounding eight people and disrupting the city on a busy working day. The police also investigated bomb alerts at two railway stations and a bus station, but found nothing.

As people were going to work Thursday morning, a 100-pound (45-kilogram) car bomb exploded outside the Plaza Hotel while the area was being cleared after a telephone warning from the Irish Republican Army. Seven people were hospitalized with minor injuries and others were treated for shock, according to the Royal Ulster Constabulary, Northern Ireland's police force.

The second bomb, planted in a street cleaner's cart, exploded outside the Royal Automobile Club building in the center of Belfast.

EC Links Aid to Democratic Progress

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Community agreed Thursday on a declaration making EC development aid dependent on progress toward democracy and human rights in Third World countries.

The declaration, approved at a meeting of senior development officials of the 12 EC nations, mainly promised increased aid for nations that improve their records. But it also threatened "when necessary, the suspension of cooperation with the states concerned." Punitive measures could also include private or public rebukes, delays in signing new aid accords, curtailment of aid projects or changes in funding channels, the document said.

Diplomats said the declaration was designed to standardize existing guidelines of EC nations and deliver a forceful message to Third World autocrats. "It doesn't mean tomorrow dictators will pack up their bags and leave," an EC official said. "But we hope people will weigh it and think about it."

Haiti Sets Presidential Vote for Jan. 5

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — The interim prime minister said Thursday that a presidential election would be held Jan. 5, despite a trade embargo imposed by foreign governments that insist that President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who was overthrown by the military on Sept. 30, be returned to power.

"We have already begun to set in motion the process that will lead to an election," Jean-Jacques Honorat said on state-run radio. He said an Electoral Council would be set up by Dec. 5 to organize the balloting and that the election would be held one month later.

The decision to go ahead with an election follows the collapse of talks last weekend between Father Aristide and Haitian lawmakers.

Somali Death Toll Reported at 300

PARIS (Reuters) — At least 300 people have been killed in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, since factional fighting resumed there 10 days ago, French doctors said Thursday.

"The death toll mounts hourly," said the French medical charity Doctors Without Borders in a statement. Its doctors, who are treating wounded at three Mogadishu hospitals, say 1,500 people have crowded the wards. As many as 3,000 others badly in need of medical care are reported to be stranded in the north of the city, isolated by the fighting.

Casualties have mounted as forces loyal to General Mohammed Farah Aidid fight to wrest control of the capital from President Ali Mahdi Mohammed. The two men belong to rival factions of the Hawiye clan of central Somalia, which formed the United Somali Congress to overthrow President Mohammed Siad Barre in January.

Correction

An article on the Art pages of the Saturday-Sunday editions incorrectly listed the auction house involved in the sale of a Diego Rivera painting in New York. The painting was sold by Christie's auction house.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Traffic Disrupted at Paris Airports

PARIS (APF) — Fog and a strike by the employees of the French airlines UTA and Air France seriously disrupted traffic at Paris airports Thursday.

All airlines were affected by the weather, and some aircraft were rerouted to Brussels.

A nationwide strike called for Friday in India is expected to cripple ports, airlines and banks.

Pilots at Vnukovo Airport in Moscow, which handles domestic traffic, have postponed a strike planned for Thursday until Dec. 4, the Russian Information Agency announced. The pilots planned the stoppage to press their demands for higher wages.

(APF)

The Weather

Forecast for Saturday through Monday

North America

Europe

Asia

Africa

Latin America

North America



Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the German foreign minister, left, and Gianni De Michelis, the Italian foreign minister, listening to a press conference on Thursday in Bonn that was given by Chancellor Kohl and Prime Minister Andreotti, following talks on Maastricht.

## Kohl Lists Conditions for EC Compromise

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BOON — Chancellor Helmut Kohl said Thursday that Germany was ready to compromise at next month's European summit meeting provided the unification process was "irreversible."

Germany was willing to compromise on the treaty on political and economic union in the agreed at Maastricht, the Netherlands, "on condition these compromises do not put in question the basic tendency of the treaty, namely that the unification process is irreversible," he said.

He was speaking at a joint news conference with Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti of Italy after talks on the run-up to the Maastricht

meeting, which is set for Dec. 9-10. Mr. Kohl declined to say whether or not Britain, which has strong reservations on political and economic union, was likely to be won over by his offer of conditional compromises.

"We want a treaty that makes very clear that economic and currency union and political union are irreversible," he said. "Underline this word again. It is very important."

Mr. Kohl appeared to be offering Britain a way out of immediate binding agreements at Maastricht as long as London and its 11 partners pledged to complete union later.

"It is important for us that the

direction we are aiming for is recognizable for everyone after Maastricht," Mr. Kohl said.

He conceded that the meeting would be unable to agree on common EC policies on immigration and illegal drug trafficking, leaving the problems to be regulated more loosely by lower-level intergovernmental consultations.

"That can be accepted," he said, adding that the goal was "to find a solution in Maastricht that makes clear that an intergovernmental solution in these areas is a temporary solution but that we want in reach a common solution in the final stage, in the years to come."

In Madrid, Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez said Thursday that

Spain would not hesitate to veto any part of a treaty on European unity that it believed was not in its interest or in the interest of Europe.

Spain favors a restructuring of EC financing to ensure that poorer members of the EC pay according to their ability.

In Dublin, Prime Minister Charles J. Haughey assured Parliament that Ireland's neutrality was not threatened by the moves toward closer economic and political union.

Opening a two-day debate in Parliament on Europe, he stressed the need for poorer EC states to be supported by richer members in the drive for a closer-knit Europe.

But he said the policy change by the United States was "squarely within the range of what we would expect, given the consultations we have had."

"What he did was no surprise to us," he said.

European officials were reluctant to say in advance how they would react to a pro-independence vote in the Ukraine on Sunday. But all said they were concerned about what one official called "certain questions" brought up by the prospect of Ukrainian independence.

Among these questions are minority rights in the Ukraine, respect for international treaties and debt commitments, and control over nuclear weapons.

German officials are reluctant to strengthen their relationship with the Ukraine and other Soviet republics because, for a variety of political and economic reasons, they do not want to weaken Mr. Gorbachev.

A political debate already is swirling around possible German recognition of two breakaway Yugoslav republics, Croatia and Slovenia, and German officials do not yet perceive the Ukraine question as immediate.

"If there is a vote for independence, we will consult with our partners and decide which aspects of our policy, if any, should change," said a Foreign Ministry official in Bonn.

"There should not be a question of dealing either with the republics or with the center," the official said. "We deal with both."

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Helmut



WORLD BRIEFS  
"on Course" for Israel The...  
...in Belfast Wound...  
...Aid to Democratic Prog...  
...Presidential Vote for Ja...  
...Dead, Toll Reported at 36...



Hundreds of Haitian refugees lining up for food at the emergency center set up at the U.S. Naval Base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

## For Haitians, U.S. Camp Is a Limbo

By Eric Schmitt  
New York Times Service  
GUANTANAMO BAY, Cuba — In a dusty clearing ringed by double rows of concrete wire and patrolled by armed American guards, scores of Haitian refugees stood in long lines for lunch in an emergency camp being built at the U.S. naval base here to guard their welfare.

"We don't know how long we'll be here, but we know we can't go back" to Haiti, said Celius Pierre Williams, 39, a math teacher, voicing a sentiment loudly seconded by several young men near him. "The army will kill us."

The tent city springing up at an old U.S. Marine training center here was set up to ease the burden on the overcrowded Coast Guard and navy vessels that have plucked thousands of Haitian refugees from the unseaworthy vessels on which they left their country. The refugees were fleeing from the turmoil that followed the ouster of Haiti's first elected leader, the Reverend Jean-Bertrand Aristide, on Sept. 30.

On Wednesday, about 240 refugees were being transferred from a Coast Guard cutter to the emergency center of cinderblock buildings, World War II-era Quonset huts and, by Friday, about 135 large green canvas tents that will accommodate about 20 people each, or a total of about 2,500 people. About 1,000 refugees have already arrived, and officials said Thursday that it was likely that the camp would be expanded to accommodate 10,000.

More than 2,000 refugees remained aboard 14 other Coast Guard vessels, and more re-

fugees were in custody in navy ships offshore. Many refugees survived their perilous voyages with only the clothes they were wearing. On a tour organized by the Pentagon, reporters were guided through the emergency refugee camp and to some of the cutters. "We're going to see a continued flow of Haitians," said Brigadier General George H. Walls Jr. of the Marines, the commander of the military task force responsible for building the emergency center.

The military and the Coast Guard emphasize that theirs is a humanitarian mission. For the Haitians, though, the emergency camp at the American military base on Cuba's eastern tip is a political limbo, and a short-term solution to a difficult diplomatic issue.

American officials argue that the Haitians are economic refugees and should not be granted political asylum. But the Bush administration is facing criticism that the policy conflicts with its opposition to the forced repatriation of Vietnamese "boat people" from Hong Kong.

Officials from the Immigration and Naturalization Service who were here to interview the Haitians said the refugees had fled to escape the indiscriminate violence that spread through their country after Father Aristide's ouster.

"Some of my family was killed by stray bullets," said Ari Miot, 26, a fisherman. "The army would come and knock down entire villages."

Aboard the Coast Guard cutter Legare, 285 Haitians crammed onto a helicopter flight deck measuring 40 feet by 170 feet (12 meters by 50 meters) huddled together under a patchwork quilt of canvas tarps lashed

together by air force crews. With a bright sun and tropical temperatures, it was stifling under the tarps.

Most of the refugees on the vessel were young men and teenagers. "Traveling is too difficult for the children," said Erick Chery, 25, a laborer.

The refugees on the Legare said they received two sizable meals each day of rice, pinto beans and fresh fruit.

Dressed in short-sleeved shirts, trousers and shower tops provided by the Coast Guard, most of the men and boys said they had no other belongings with them.

General Walls said the crowded conditions aboard the ships were taxing the Coast Guard's resources and made it imperative that the refugees be brought ashore.

The refugees will receive more hospitable if still spartan accommodations on the site at Camp Bulkeley, the former U.S. Marine center that just out into the Caribbean at the naval base's northern boundary. The transfer will also free up the Coast Guard vessels to resume patrols.

At the windswept campsite, 18 to 20 cots are squeezed under each canvas tent, per United Nations specifications for refugees. Men and women live in separate quarters, with children staying with one parent.

The food is better here, the refugees said. The military serves a hot breakfast, including scrambled eggs, oatmeal, fruit and juice, said Captain William C. McCamy of the navy, the base commander.

The refugees, who generally appeared healthy and in good spirits, have a light lunch of sandwiches. Dinners include chili and beef with noodles, Captain McCamy said.

## After Stall, Congress Abandons Crime Bill

By Guy Gugliotta  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A badly battered anti-crime bill, which President George Bush had threatened to veto as "too soft," was abandoned in Congress when Democrats failed to overcome Republicans' stalling tactics.

Democrats said they had crafted a tough bill and questioned Mr. Bush's motives in opposing it: "Congress offered him the toughest crime bill in history, and he called it 'pro-criminal,'" said the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Joseph R. Biden Jr., Democrat of Delaware. Mr. Bush, Mr. Biden said, was "toeing the line" of the National Rifle Association.

Supporters in the Senate needed 60 votes in close debate and head off a Republican filibuster, but they obtained only 49 before the Congress began its winter recess. That meant the legislation was effectively dead. The Senate inaction followed a dramatic House vote of 205 to 203 earlier in the day to pass the bill over furious lobbying.

The bill would have spent about \$3 billion on federal law enforcement and would have applied the death penalty to 53 federal crimes, including terrorist murders, killings of U.S. officials, genocide, kidnapping ending in death and major drug-trafficking offenses, even if murder is not involved.

The bill also incorporated the "Brady bill," calling for a waiting period of five working days for handgun purchases in check whether the buyer has a criminal record. The bill is named after former White House press secretary James S. Brady, severely wounded in a 1981 assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan.

## Australia Gets U.S. Naval Base

Reuters

CANBERRA — Australia will take control of a remote and secret submarine base that it has run jointly with the United States since 1974, Defense Minister Robert Ray said Thursday.

The United States is pulling out of the North-West Cape base, 1,400 kilometers (875 miles) north of Perth, as part of a cutback in military expenditure. The base is used to communicate with Australian and U.S. submarines.

## A Last-Minute Tax-Cut Waltz

It's All Moot, but Democrats Pounce and Bush Flounders

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — After months of hesitation and often aimless economic debate, the White House and Congress have suddenly decided that now is the time to talk about a tax cut, even if it is not the time to enact one.

It remains unlikely that Congress will actually act on tax reduction until next year, even after completion of hearings on the issue that House and Senate chairmen scheduled to begin next week.

There are strong pressures against a cut now, including economic arguments that it might not be the right way to speed recovery. But there is no doubt that Washington has just gone through one of those peculiar moments in which all parties seem to have been stamped at least into the appearance of action by a sudden political epiphany.

In this case, it seems, both Congress and the White House came to the realization that legislators were about to go home for two months without having tackled the one issue foremost in voters' minds — the sagging economy — and that it would get increasingly hard for them to keep blaming each other for the lapse.

Over a chaotic 24 hours, a last-minute economic proposal that a group of House Republicans floated as a short-term tactical measure suddenly galvanized the capital, even though it was not supported even by a majority of their own party.

After chastising the sponsors, President George Bush reversed himself and endorsed their plan, only to find himself assailed once again for flip-flopping in a way that Republican strategists found uncomfortable like his vacillation over taxes in the 1990 budget debate.

The Democrats, for their part, gleefully scheduled hearings on the Republican plan in the Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee.

The Democrats are expected to bring up their own proposals for tax cuts, while attacking the Republicans over tax cuts that Democrats say favor the wealthiest Americans.

The Democrats also left open the possibility of returning to a session in December, rather than sitting at home and waiting for the broadside from the White House that Mr. Bush had warned would be forthcoming in the winter recess.

It all began with Republicans in the House of Representatives who, frustrated by the president's inaction, threw together a last-minute "economic growth package" that included a cut in the tax rate on profits from investments; to show they were concerned about the

economy even if the White House did not appear to be.

Leading the charge was Representative Newt Gingrich of Georgia, the House Republican whip, who is one of the most vocal proponents of a tax cut and, by extension, one of the leading critics of White House inaction.

The Republicans dared their Democratic opponents to bring it to the floor before the Thanksgiving recess, knowing it had no prayer of passage but counting on attacking the Democrats later for having failed to take action.

Administration officials said Mr. Bush had been coming under increasing pressure from his aides, from within the party and from supporters around the country, to take some action on the economy, if only to demonstrate that he is concerned about domestic issues and to stem the decline in his public approval ratings.

The noise finally penetrated the White House on Tuesday morning, officials said, when Vice President Dan Quayle, who had returned from a trip to Massachusetts on Monday evening, told the president that everyone in New England was talking about how bad the economy was and waiting for him to do something.

After an intensive discussion with John H. Sumnu, the White House chief of staff, Richard G. Darman, the budget director, and Mr. Quayle, Mr. Bush decided to lend his support to Mr. Gingrich's package.

In doing so, he strayed from the advice of top White House advisers, including Mr. Sumnu, Mr. Darman and Treasury Secretary Nicholas F. Brady. They had been telling him for weeks not to take action to spur economic growth and not to engage in a bidding war with the Democrats over a tax cut.

For the Democrats, Mr. Bush's endorsement focused the normally confused closing days of a congressional session on a single issue, emboldening them in their attack over the economy and leaving the White House open to another fight over the capital gains tax cut, which the Democrats have succeeded in portraying as a tax break for the rich.

—ANDREW ROSENTHAL

## In Albania, Return to Rank

Reuters

TIRANA, Albania — Albania, emerging from four decades of Stalinism, is reintroducing ranks to its armed forces after a 25-year break, state television reported.

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Fall 1992

## Sex as Usual for Most, Despite Johnson

By Janny Scott  
Los Angeles Times Service

LOS ANGELES — Concern about AIDS appears to have increased after Earvin (Magic) Johnson's announcement that he is infected with the AIDS virus, but it is unclear whether that concern is altering people's sexual habits, according to results from a new Los Angeles Times poll.

Nearly one-third of those interviewed in the poll of 1,709 adult Americans nationwide said they were very concerned about their own risk of getting AIDS — up from one-fifth in Times polls during the mid- and late-1980s and from one-fourth in another organization's poll in May.

But three-quarters of those interviewed between Nov. 21 and 24 said they had not changed their sexual behavior for fear of AIDS. Twenty-three percent said they had, a figure that differs little from the 20 percent found in a June poll. Although the poll found that an extraordinarily high percentage of those polled — 99 percent — had heard or read something about Mr. Johnson's announcement, it also found that Americans were torn over what lessons to draw from his case.

Forty-six percent agreed with the statement that all major league athletes should be required to take an AIDS test before being allowed to join a team, while 49 percent

disagreed and 5 percent said they were unsure.

Fifty-one percent agreed with the statement that Mr. Johnson "should have known better and now he is paying the price," while 39 percent said they felt that the 32-year-old former star of the Los Angeles Lakers "is an unfortunate victim of chance."

Forty-nine percent said they thought the principal AIDS-prevention message for young people should be to learn safer sex practices before having sex. Forty-five percent said the message should be to abstain altogether.

Mr. Johnson announced Nov. 7 that he was retiring from professional basketball because he had tested positive for HIV, the human immunodeficiency virus. He has stated since then that he became infected through heterosexual promiscuity.

Experts in AIDS prevention have hailed the news as a turning point in the war against the disease — powerful evidence that everyone is at risk. They hoped especially that minority groups and young people, increasingly affected, might take Mr. Johnson's example to heart.

In addition to the unusually high level of public awareness about Mr. Johnson, the poll found that more than a quarter of those interviewed said they were following the story very closely, and nearly half said they were following it somewhat closely.

10-Fold Rise Expected  
The World Health Organization forecast Thursday that the number of AIDS sufferers around the globe

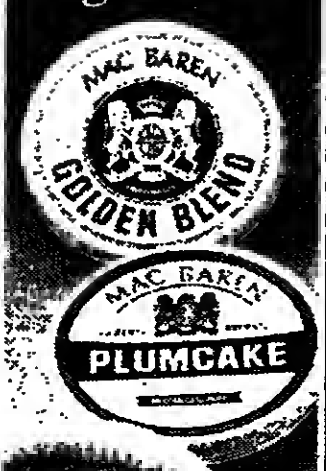
would increase tenfold by the year 2000, Reuters reported from Geneva.

Dr. Michael Merson, head of WHO's Global Program on AIDS, said 5,000 people were being infected every day.

According to WHO figures, 9 million to 10 million people worldwide have already been infected by the HIV virus, which causes AIDS. Of those, about 1.5 million have already contracted the disease.

By the end of the century, many of the people now carrying the virus will have developed full-blown AIDS, WHO predicts up to 18 million people out of a total of 30 million in 40 million infected will have the disease.

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## Britain, Where Condoms Don't Make Life Safer

Reuters  
LONDON — British prostitutes accused the police on Thursday of "criminalizing safer sex," because authorities are using possession of condoms as evidence of soliciting. The prostitutes' union demanded an end to prosecutions on these grounds.

"The use of possession of condoms to prosecute prostitute women undermines women's efforts to protect their health and the health of others," a representative of the English Collective of Prostitutes said at a news conference.

The representative said prosecutions based on the presence of condoms in a woman's handbag also undermined the efforts of health authorities to stop the spread of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

The police insist that this is an acceptable way of identifying prostitutes. "If you hang around Kings Cross in a short skirt with a purse full of condoms — well, it's just common sense, isn't it?" a police spokesman said.

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# INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

Published With The New York Times and The Washington Post

## A Rare Opportunity

### Dithering Gestures

Talking about openings for peace in the Middle East, Israelis like to recall Abba Eban's tart remark about Palestinians never missing an opportunity to miss an opportunity. At this pregnant moment, it is Israel that risks falling into the opportunity gap.

For 43 years, Israel has wanted nothing more than face-to-face negotiations with its several Arab neighbors — neighbors which, except for Egypt, would not deny even to acknowledge Israel's existence. Courtesy of the Bush administration, Israel now has that opportunity. Last month's Madrid conference opened the way for negotiations, in circumstances agreeable to Israel. Does Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's government now seize on this momentous opportunity with imagination, energy and even daring? On the contrary, it measures out its grudging responses in coffee spoons. Mr. Shamir seems capable of no more than angry procedural gestures to show that he won't be pushed around.

Israel's friends wonder sadly whether it truly sees the opportunity for peace by coming to the table, or wishes to dither endlessly about its shape.

Mr. Shamir has reason to be offended. To a list of perceived slights from the Bush administration he can now add the way he was treated on his recent visit to Washington. For the administration to issue invitations to a new round of talks in Washing-

ton without telling him offended all Israelis. Even so, the Bush administration's behavior surely seems more clumsy than calculated. It could hardly expect to remain an honest broker by antagonizing the principal party to talks. The important issue in any case is not Israeli pride but Israeli perspective. By going on now to Chapter 3 of the peace talks, Israel can act, momentarily, in its own long-term interest.

Chapter 1 embraced the agreement of Arabs to meet with Israel at all, in Madrid. Chapter 2 covered the meeting itself, leading to fragile expressions of willingness to continue the process. There is no haste in the American invitation to meet in Washington on Dec. 4; that is almost a month after Madrid. Mr. Shamir is posturing by now insisting on Dec. 9.

The United States has, further, offered broad ideas for how Israelis and Arabs might loosen some of the negotiation knots — a welcome progression from procedure to substance. The recent rough spots in personal relations notwithstanding, the Bush administration deserves Israeli respect for the content of its policies.

It is a rare opportunity to ease the Middle East's cruel history, the first such opening since the dazzling day in 1977 when Anwar Sadat held out his hand to Israel. A bold, substantive initiative from Israel now might also win the widest attention and support, and for the same reason. Peace is worth risks.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

### In the Parties' Interest

The parties are jumpy about accepting the American government's invitation to resume the Middle East peace talks in Washington on Dec. 4. Israel in particular fears that awesome precedents of procedure are being set that could compromise its national objectives. Arabs seek to be paid in substantive coin for acceptance of the proposal.

But wait a minute. Everyone can understand that these talks, which are for the United States an important but not do-or-die regional exercise, are for the parties a supreme matter. They would be foolish not to peer behind every comma — but they would be more foolish not to realize that Washington has organized these talks not in the first instance for its benefit but for theirs. The parties cannot possibly think that progress is more important to Americans than to them. It is not they who are in a position to bargain their cooperation against American responsiveness. The United States is in a position to bargain its cooperation against theirs.

American diplomats goaded by announcing the Dec. 4 date before Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir could make his case for delay in Washington. But by no means did the slip attest to an American incapacity to conduct a negotiation, as some Israelis sub-

sequently made out. Nerves alone cannot explain the overreaction; there was some calculation in it, too. In any event, Israelis are poorly placed to complain of American activism, whether in resolving a difference on dates or posing questions of substance. Without it there would be no negotiation. These are, after all, the direct talks that Israel has been seeking for 43 years.

The parties invited to Washington are new at talking peace. Especially do they need practice in moving from artificially overboarded questions of procedure to issues of substance. One understands, in a sense, the Syrians, immobilized by a dictator's decision to put his personal power over his country's advantage. But it is disarming that the shrewd Mr. Shamir evidently used up most of his precious time with President George Bush last week talking about shape-of-the-table matters that should have been left to the hired hands.

The American government, we think, is earnestly striving to be faithful to its long-time friend and ally Israel. But it understands something that not all Israelis have yet caught on to: that to be faithful it must earn the trust of responsible moderate Arabs and Israelis alike, and that a process like the one begun at Madrid either moves ahead or fades away.

— THE WASHINGTON POST

## Victory Over Drift Nets

"A sweet victory for the global environment" was how one elated marine biologist described Japan's announcement on Tuesday that it would shut down its drift net fishing industry by the end of next year. It surely is. It is also a tribute to a few resolute American legislators and thousands of dedicated conservationists who have fought for years against this cruel and wasteful practice. Japan is one of three Asian nations, with South Korea and Taiwan, which conduct drift net fishing in the Pacific. Drift nets are mammoth curtains of lightweight filament, 50 kilometers long and 10 meters deep. The Asian fleets use them to harvest squid, but the nets also trap millions of fish and marine mammals, which are dumped over the side dead or dying.

Drift-netting amounts to strip-mining life from the sea. And because it also threatens America's fishing industry, three Re-

publican senators from the Pacific Northwest — Slade Gorton of Washington, Bob Packwood of Oregon and Ted Stevens of Alaska — pushed through a bill requiring trade sanctions unless Japan abandoned drift-netting by next June 30. That threat got Japan's attention. Japan also felt pressure from the United Nations, which is expected to approve a ban on all high seas drift-netting by the end of 1992.

Japan will accept the United Nations' more leisurely timetable, cutting drift-netting in half by next July and ending it completely by the end of the year. Even so, the decision may cost Japan's fishing industry 10,000 jobs. Since Taiwan has agreed to the same schedule, two major offenders remain: South Korea in the Pacific and France in the Atlantic. May Japan's example persuade both to end the slaughter at sea.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

## Other Comment

### The Soviet State Is Gone

When reading the text of the new treaty [on Soviet union] published this week, one gets a clear idea why the republics refused to initial it. From the very first clause an attentive reader of the treaty will see it double, as a drunken man sees. Every republic... is a sovereign state, and the union itself is also a sovereign state. The inharmonious Union of Sovereign States is a subject of international relations, and its every unit is also such a subject, and independently at that.

As to the general laws of the union, we shall find none, if we try to bring to light the issue obscured by the treaty's authors. The U.S.S.R. has no constitution, and a free treaty is the only rope that holds it together. Every member state is to define independently its state structure, which can range theoretically from monarchy to anarchy. Accordingly, in theory any state from Australia to Jamaica can enter or leave it.

The draft envisages elections of a president by the union's entire population. We presume that such elections will eventually reach an impasse. It never comes to anyone's mind to elect the United Nations secretary-general by ballots of the globe's entire population.

We must proceed from the fait accompli that the Soviet Union as a single state is no more, whatever new name we can give it.

— Komsomolskaya Pravda (Moscow)

### Dismantling the Warheads

The Soviet Union has an arsenal of about 30,000 nuclear warheads, half of them on short-range battlefield weapons that it has promised to disarm and destroy. There is a big problem, however. Dismantling the devices is a slow and complex process. At best, says a Harvard study, the Soviets are able to have the capacity to eliminate only about 2,000 weapons a year on their own.

Ordinarily that leisurely pace might not be troubling. But these are anything but ordinary times in the Soviet Union, and there is a not unreasonable fear that as the country continues to fall apart, control over some tactical nuclear weapons could pass into the hands of terrorists or local militias.

The U.S. Congress has to its credit acted to speed up the disarmament effort. President Bush has been given authority to divert up to \$500 million from the military budget to help the Soviets dismantle 15,000 tactical nuclear weapons. U.S. aid in dismantling nuclear weapons would go only to those republics that requested it and were themselves ready to invest in dismantling facilities. The American approach to helping speed the disarmament could thus turn out to be less than foolproof. But it is the best that can be done under circumstances in which Soviet republics might soon proclaim themselves sovereign countries.

— The Los Angeles Times

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## OPINION

## Match Beijing With Soft and Tough Talk

By Flora Lewis

SHANGHAI — The new stock exchange here is an investor's dream. Since the base was set on opening last Dec. 19, the index has moved from 100 to 250. Nothing has gone down.

There is so much local demand (foreigners are not allowed to buy yet) for the few dozen issues that nobody pays attention to the jitters of Wall Street and Tokyo.

The city is booming with grandiose long-term plans that will make it once again the hub of the East China Sea. No one seems to doubt that the "opening to the outside" part of Beijing's policy is irreversible, whether or not the other part of "holding tight on the inside" (unrelenting political control) is maintained indefinitely.

Even that does not mean that criticism and complaints are not allowed, but they must be limited to practical questions of moving the economy along and promoting efficiency. What are called "ideological issues" of democracy, political pluralism, human rights are sternly off-limits and people are kept aware of that.

Top Shanghai municipal officials argue that Beijing is siphoning off too much money (75 percent of revenues), still interfering too much in local decisions, keeping managers under too tight a rein. But step by step, Shanghai is thriving and people pay little attention to politics. As a Western diplomat put it, "Americans don't vote, Chinese don't talk about the system."

This reflects the regime's deliberate calculation, not a new decision but reaffirmed now after nearly two years of doubt and high-level internal debate in the wake of the 1989 Beijing massacre. The official thesis is that steady economic improvement requires an unruffled political and social climate, and that only continued economic reform

can maintain political stability. In Beijing's eyes, this is the virtuous circle needed to propel China. There are foreign policy implications, not only because of the desire to attract foreign investment and trade but also for national strategic interests. China wants a role in the world. Therefore, a senior Foreign Ministry official said, it sees its relations with America in three basic categories.

One is international issues, such as nuclear nonproliferation and regional conflicts, where goals are seen as compatible. The second is what are called "practical" bilateral questions such as trade, where "hard bargaining" is expected but compromise sought. The third is "ideological," where there is no prospect and no desire for accord, on the contrary.

The effort here is to separate the issues, just as economic and political reform have been rigidly separated domestically.

The West, and the United States in particular, cannot accept this as a condition for good relations without betraying its own values. But it can and should separate the kinds of leverage being used to promote the various Western interests involved. Linkage should not sacrifice immediate and crucial strategic aims such as Chinese participation in limiting missile sales or in blocking North Korean development of a nuclear bomb.

Means and ends need better matching. Military and strategic diplomacy should focus on China's international behavior. Most-favored-nation trade status should depend on China's trading behavior, including export of disguised prison labor products and patent violations. And

pressure for democratization and human rights, equally important but longer-term and more intrusive, should be addressed with energetic campaigns of information and persuasion.

Senator Joseph Biden is right. The establishment of a Radio Free China to broadcast word of what is happening inside China but is hidden from its people, and of what the rest of the world thinks about it, is a more useful way of encouraging freedom than economic sanctions, as he says. Maybe Beijing is right that economic growth strengthens the regime, maybe not.

I don't think so, and I think it is worth the risk of believing that as people get better off they will demand democracy for their own reasons.

Meanwhile, they need information. It is significant that in East European countries, whose regimes bitterly denounced Radio Free Europe's broadcasts, new democratic governments want them continued as stimulus and competition for their new independence media. Beijing would certainly be angry if the United States launched such a radio. Not to worry. It does things that make other people angry. Truth only hurts those who would deceive, not the innocent.

Dealing with China is enormously complex, involving many different problems that require different approaches. The Chinese idea of separating types of issues is a good one, just as China has provided the world with other good ideas over the centuries. But it does not mean resignation to just muddling about human rights, which is a universal whether Beijing admits it or not. It means promoting democracy in the democratic way of speaking up, and leaving geopolitical pressure for geopolitics. Both are needed.

© Flora Lewis

## The President's Problem Is the President Himself

By David S. Broder

WASHINGTON — A dozen different factions are emerging to force George Bush to face the shake-up of his high command. But the disarray in the White House has deeper political and intellectual roots than Mr. Bush is still reluctant to address.

John Sununu has been a loyal chief of staff with a better understanding of Mr. Bush's goals than many of his critics are willing to concede. Now, however, his high-handedness has alienated not just Mr. Bush's opponents but his friends as well, and Mr. Sununu's tenure is becoming costly.

When only Senate Democrats gaped about Mr. Sununu's "arrogance" it was a badge of honor around the White House. But more and more of the people Mr. Bush wants engaged in his re-election campaign and in the rescue of his battered domestic and economic policy operations are expressing reluctance to work under Mr. Sununu, and that is something Mr. Bush cannot afford.

Important operatives in past campaigns are boycotting, or finding excuses to miss, weekly political meetings in Mr. Sununu's office. Friends outside government whom Mr. Bush has called for advice are telling him he cannot solve his problems with Mr. Sununu in place, because Mr. Sununu stifles too much creativity by his intimidating style. They have asked Mr. Bush to contrast the confusion in his domestic operations with the smooth coordination of international policy under the low-key national security adviser, Brent Scowcroft.

What these advisers do not tell the president, so far as I can judge, is that he invites the continuing squabbles on domestic policy by the fuzziness and ambivalence of his own thinking about the course of the nation.

The sloppiness of the Bush approach to domestic policy was camouflaged (lightly) in his 1988 campaign by reliance on such weak and slippery concepts as the "flexible freeze" as a solution to the budget deficit, and "buying into Medicaid" as the answer to gaps in health care.

Behind this rhetoric was a belief, which Mr. Bush expressed in dozens of campaign interviews, that Ronald Reagan essentially had set the country on a new and correct course in the early 1980s and nothing more than fine-tuning was needed in the '90s.

The minimalist rhetoric of 1988 set the stage for the minimalist economic program Mr. Bush has offered as president. Since both the world and the nation have changed, others in the administration and the Republican Party have moved to fill the Bush-created policy vacuum. The result has been policy wars that mock the reputation of competence that Mr. Bush gained in international affairs.

Example: Mr. Bush gave the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, William Reilly, a green light for more regulatory activism than President Reagan would have tolerated, and at the same time encouraged Vice President Dan Quayle to pick up the anti-regulatory franchise that Mr. Bush himself had held as vice president. Result: Mr. Reilly's EPA is now hemorrhaging leaders to the press and Congress against Mr. Quayle's Competitiveness Council.

Example: Mr. Bush encouraged the tax-cutting supply-siders in the administration to push for capital gains tax reductions at the same time as he let Budget Director Richard Darman negotiate a long-term deal with Congress requiring dollar-for-dollar replacement of any lost revenues. Result: The president flip-flops twice a week on whether he wants a tax cut.

## Throw Them Out of the White House

By Dick Army

The writer, a Texas representative, is the ranking Republican on the congressional Joint Economic Committee.

WASHINGTON — George Bush is dangerously out of touch with the American public. Instead of listening to the elected people in his party who are most in touch with the average voter — House Republicans — he remains cloistered with aides whose specialty seems to be avoiding action in favor of blaming others for the nation's economic woes.

House Republicans are increasingly frustrated with the White House's wait-and-see attitude on the economy. We hear our constituents' genuine concern about their prosperity, and sense their resentment that the White House seems to show little

regard for that concern. Our calls for quick action are rebuffed by unelected White House officials such as Richard Darman, the budget director, and John Sununu, the chief of staff, who advocate waiting for a more politically opportune moment to push for economic growth.

Mr. Darman recently counseled the president to wait until the State of the Union address in January to announce an economic plan, saying that this timing would be better because "in the general public's mind there's a ritual rhythm of renewal... to the State of the Union." He should be thrown from the front door of the White House for such an absurd statement, the way unsavory characters were ejected from Texas saloons.

What "general public" does he have in mind — the general public at the White House mess? The real general

public is more attuned to the prospect of a bleak Christmas.

To see how much this "rhythm of renewal" exists in the American mind, I conducted an unscientific but objective telephone poll, asking 10 people at random one simple question: "When is the State of the Union address?" Seven did not know; a Nebraska video store manager, an auto parts clerk in Missouri, a Pennsylvania financial planner, a pregnant publicist in San Francisco, an out-of-work New Jersey car salesman, a Texas small business owner and a Washington cashier.

The House Republican conference last Friday endorsed immediate enactment of a comprehensive growth plan, including a partial restoration of passive-loss real estate deductions which would help bolster home values, a reduced capital gains rate, a repeal of job-killing excise taxes on boats, aircraft and jewelry, and a bill allowing families to tap individual retirement accounts for first homes.

Representative Tom DeLay, a Texas Republican, recently sent a letter signed by 113 of the 166 House Republicans urging Speaker Tom Foley to keep Congress in session until such a pro-growth package is passed.

Regrettably, our message does not seem to be getting across at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Mr. Sununu recently lectured House Republicans that politics is "a matter of seasons" and that this is not the right "season" for the president to go on television to push a growth package.

Mr. Bush left the House more than 20 years ago, but he should remember how close a congressional seat is to the people back home, and heed our call now rather than later.

The New York Times

## IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

### 1891: Peacetime Victory

PARIS — Chancellor von Caprivi's latest speech is of a most reassuring character. It is rather galling to those who for the past ten days have been so confidently predicting war, and very comforting to those who don't believe there will be one in the spring. No nation in Europe has anything to gain by war. And as to France, every six months of peace is a battle won — we do not mean a soldier's victory, but a victory for material prosperity. For France is rich enough to keep up the present heavy armaments, while the other countries are not. And the longer this armed peace endures, the stronger will be France and the weaker will become her neighbors.

### 1916: Germany's Intent?

WASHINGTON — The Washington Times publishes the following excerpt from a code letter said to have been addressed to Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador. It was de-

## The Talks Belong At Home

By H. D. S. Greenway

BOSTON — No one who was in Israel during those tumultuous November days 14 years ago when Anwar Sadat showed up at Ben-Gurion Airport can forget the astonishing popular expressions of relief and joy that burst the bounds of pessimism.

One could not be sure then that anything lasting was going to come of the visit. Ironically, the opposition Labor Party, which favors land for peace, was adamantly against giving back all of the Sinai to Egypt. How Menachem Begin and the Likud government might ultimately react was at that time anybody's guess.

The joy was an expression of hope that, finally, something was happening to loose the iron bands of fear and hatred that bind the heart and constrict the breathing of those who live on that sliver of land between the river and the sea.

I watched crowds of smiling, singing Israelis, the waving of paper Egyptian flags and the plethora of T-shirts saying "Give peace a chance," and I thought: No government, no matter how hard-nosed, is going to be able to resist the popular uprising that is taking place.

Later that year, when Israel's leaders journeyed to Cairo to confer at what was supposed to be an international peace conference, the Egyptian public went wild. Israelis — some of whom had visited Cairo as children in better times, but had never seen back — went looking for famous old landmarks like Cropp's confectionery on Suleiman Pasha. Cropp's employees would not let them pay for candies. Taxi drivers wanted to give Israelis free rides. The enthusiasm of the Cairo crowd surprised even the Egyptian architects of the peace that was to come.

True, relations between Egypt and Israel have cooled since those heady days, and each gives you reasons why it is disappointed in the other. But a great psychological barrier was burst in those first encounters, and despite everything that has happened since, Egypt and Israel remain at peace.

Now there is another chance — a chance to rectify some of the mistakes and lost opportunities of 1977. Israel comes into these new negotiations with a harder heart, and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is on the record as refusing to make the compromises that Menachem Begin made.

Yet Mr. Shamir was on to something when he called for the coming bilateral negotiations to be held in the Middle East. The Arabs will not accept it, and to break the deadlock the Bush administration rightly offered up Washington as a compromise. But the best venue, as Mr. Shamir said in Madrid, would still be "in our region, in close proximity to the decision makers, not in a foreign land."

Right now there seems very little chance that this will happen, and it would be counterproductive for the Israelis to insist. But the Arabs would do well to accede to Mr. Shamir on this issue, difficult as it could be. There may be no Sadats among them, but such a gesture would go a long way toward overcoming the Israeli public's suspicion and hostility.

Someone once told me that there is no public opinion in Israel, only public mood. The country is about evenly divided on whether giving up at least some land for peace would enhance or diminish Israel's security. Were there demonstrable negotiations going on right under their noses, with the arrivals and departures, the motorcade, the flags and ceremonies — a beginning of an end to regional isolation, which Mr. Sadat understood so well — the Israeli public might get caught up in the spirit of a movement toward peace and compromise.

If the Arabs wish to withhold de jure recognition of Israel until there is some real progress in the peace process, so be it. But nothing is going to move peace along further or faster than convincing the Israeli public that something meaningful and important really is going on — that there is someone human to talk to and that someone human is talking to them. And, who knows, some of this might catch on in Arab capitals as well.

Israel's interlocutors should know that the only hope they have of recovering territory is to convince the Israeli public that peace and reconciliation are real possibilities, not just words to be floated at international conferences. Prime Minister Shamir was right when he said: "There is no better way to make peace than to talk in each other's home."

The writer is senior associate editor of The Boston Globe and a former Jerusalem correspondent for The Washington Post, to which he contributed this comment.

### 1941: Equal in the Sand

CAIRO — [From our New York edition:] I have just returned from a visit to the Libyan front, and for the first time in three days I have been able to take off my shoes, undress and wash. No other woman has been allowed so far in the Western Desert, and officers who made my trip possible were afraid they might have to worry about my welfare. They soon discovered that women were not much worse than men when it comes to living in the sand. In fact sand made us all alike in a few hours, the dull yellow sand plastered on our faces and mixed in our hair.



## OPINION

## CIA + KGB = A Mix to Handle With Care

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Five months ago, as he was plotting the coup to seize power from the isolated Mikhail Gorbachev, the KGB chairman, Vladimir Kryuchkov, invited members of the CIA to Moscow. The CIA, presumably after checking with President George Bush, agreed to send a delegation to its rival service. From July 27 to Aug. 7, a team of three U.S. intelligence officers led by a senior CIA official met with an aide to the KGB chairman.

On Aug. 18, the Kryuchkov coup was attempted and failed. General Kryuchkov and the other top

**Is it good that the negotiations are a part of the attempt by the KGB and CIA to grow connective tissue?**

KGB brass were jailed. This bump in the road did not slow the unprecedented rapprochement of Cold War enemies. In mid-October, the same CIA man went back to Moscow to see the new KGB. (The man cannot be named, the CIA says, because he is "under cover," although obviously not from the KGB.)

This time the U.S. team met with Vadim Bakatin, new chairman of the interpublic security force that wishes Americans would stop calling it the KGB; Fedor Myasnikov, deputy KGB chief and head of counterintelligence; and General Victor Ivanenko, of the Russian Republic's internal security agency. The meeting must have gone well; the counterspy Mr. Myasnikov, Boris Yeltsin's General Ivanenko

and Leonid Ryabchenya of the foreign espionage arm were dispatched to Langley, Virginia, on Oct. 26 to meet Richard Kerr, then acting director of Central Intelligence while Robert Gates was being confirmed, as well as FBI representatives.

What did they talk about? American spokes tell me the agency explained how oversight and accountability worked (presumably with a straight face) and how security functions were separated into a CIA for spying and an FBI for counterespionage and internal security. Strictly dull stuff.

Mr. Myasnikov's emphasis is different: He says they talked about ways of cooperating in the fight against drugs, terrorism and organized crime. "We will now be able to contact one another direct, bypassing diplomatic channels," he told *Komsomolskaya Pravda* on Nov. 6, "and settle common problems." Strictly law enforcement stuff.

I suspect that these versions are only partly true. My guess is that Lubyanka and Langley were primarily discussing control of nuclear arms.

In his office on Nov. 8, the KGB's Mr. Bakatin described "a main direction of our work" as "ensuring proper functioning of the objects of strategic importance, as well as control over the situation in such industry branches as the production of fissionable materials, the production of nuclear arms and the matters related to destruction of nuclear arms."

Those "objects" are ICBMs. Then came this interchange: Me: "Is that the job of the Defense Ministry

or the KGB?" Him: "Of course, it is for the Ministry of Defense to do. Our task is to keep an eye on it, to make sure that the security is maintained." Me: "So you look over their shoulders?" Him: "To a certain degree, yes. If you tell them that, they will be terribly upset, but the counterintelligence in the Red Army is our counterintelligence."

So the United States has some hot and heavy negotiations going on, through intelligence as well as diplomatic or defense channels, about the single most important element in relations with the disintegrating union: control of nukes that could hit America.

Is it good that Washington is making contact on that subject? Of course. Is it good that the negotiations are a part of the attempt by the KGB (a counterintelligence agency) and CIA (an intelligence agency) to grow connective tissue? I wonder.

Mr. Gorbachev's new chief of foreign espionage, Yevgeni Primakov, was in Washington last week meeting with the State Department. Subject: informal discussions on "strategic stability" — onkes. (An encouraging note: When he tried to see Robert Gates, the director of Central Intelligence, he was ducked.)

The oversight committees in Congress should look into the CIA's excursion into diplomacy. The recent tongue-in-cheek headline in *Izvestia* should serve as a warning: "Special Services of All Countries, Unite!"

The KGB's mission may or may not have been modified, but its personnel is the same and its purpose is still penetration. Before letting these opposite agencies attract, Washington should make sure the contact is controlled and accountable.

The New York Times

## A Conspiracy Theory to Demolish

By Edwin M. Yoder

WASHINGTON — ABC News recently offered yet another treatment of the kooky story that "white America" has a "plan to get rid of" American blacks, as the anchor, Peter Jennings, characterized it.

ABC's reporter, Jeff Greenfield, noted that the plot is widely rumored, possibly believed by as many as one in three black Americans, and the subject of a book ("Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys," by Jawanza Kunjufu) and of frequent musings by Gary Byrd, an influential New York radio call-in host.

When a Washington psychiatrist, herself black, expounded the theory be-

## MEANWHILE

fore an audience of the black community's "best and brightest" she drew a standing ovation.

Conspiracy theories, one and all, conform to a predictable structure, and this one is no exception. You take a generous pinch of troubling or unusual facts — "more than coincidence," as conspiracy buffs like to say — and stir in an imputed motive. In this instance, the facts are the disproportionate hazards faced by young black males, which are sad and indisputable. They are, as ABC reported, nine times more likely to be murdered and seven times more likely to commit murder than their white counterparts. A quarter of them are in prison, on probation or on parole on any given day.

And as for a motive, why would the "white establishment" (conspiracy buffs deal plentifully in these shadowy entities; names are rarely given) want young blacks exterminated? The most popular theory is the one offered by the Washington psychiatrist who got the ovation — white fear of being "out-bred" by blacks. This is demographic nonsense, but who needs evidence?

Part of the supposed plot — along with the deadly supply of guns and drugs — is the AIDS virus, which supposedly was concocted under auspices of the "white establishment" as part of the armory of genocide.

Is it material that more whites than blacks are infected? Or that epidemiologists speculate — there being no certainty in such matters — that the first transmission occurred among white homosexuals at a New York beach weekend? Not especially. For the conspiracy-minded, such counter-evidence tells you nothing conclusive about where the virus came from in the first place. And how like these masters of deceit, whoever they are, to throw us off the scent by seeing that the contagion struck whites hardest first.

This story has lately become a staple of television news, though not, so far, of print. Because of the inane patterns of "fairness" and "equal time" foisted on television news in its infancy by the Federal Communications Commission and Congress, such stories tend to propagate rumors rather than examine them.

remor Douglas Wilder of Virginia and other admired black officials hiding something? Ask a few such questions and the silliness of the theory seems overwhelmingly obvious — unless, of course, the plot is universal.

Most conspiratorial theories are harmless. But this one, like the notorious concoction of the anti-Semitic "Protocols of the Elders of Zion" by the czarist secret police, is vicious. It breeds cynicism, doubt of the good intentions of American government among those who already have some good reason to doubt them. It perpetuates, among those who believe it, a psychology of victimization, badly to personal autonomy and effort. And it offers bogus "explanations" of deadly perils that need to be properly diagnosed and treated.

The parallel with the Protocols is more than casual. Ex-officials of the Soviet KGB have recently admitted that in the bad old days that agency spread a rumor that AIDS had been "invented" by the CIA for genocidal purposes. Those who give currency to the black genocide story should ask themselves if they are prolonging a nasty fabrication which even its inventors have now repudiated.

Washington Post Writers Group

## Who Needs All This Gore?

By Lane H. Montgomery

NEW YORK — The modernized version of the 1961 film "Cape Fear" has arrived in living color and with a few other additives like gore and sodomy to give it that full-bodied flavor we crave so much today.

In the 1962 version, the husband, Gregory Peck, has two precious assets, his wife and his teenage daughter. His greatest fear is that they will be harmed by a released convict, Robert Mitchum, who has turned up in their small Southern town after serving a sentence for rape and battery, to revenge himself on Peck and his family. He blames Peck for sending him to prison. Peck and his family lure and expose Mitchum. Peck returns Mitchum to prison. Justice is served. The family is saved.

Thirty years later, the role of Gregory Peck is played by Nick Nolte, whose most precious asset is himself. He is an angry, loud man raging in his narcissism at his depressed wife and frustrated daughter, who form the trio of this dysfunctional 1990s family.

Robert De Niro, in the role of the convict, is not trusted to stalk, disturb and involve us with his formidable talent, except once, with the daughter, in the only moving scene of the film. Instead, De Niro's role is to sell tickets. He is the tattooed man in the sideshow, a raging sadist who kills and sodomizes and bites a bunk out of a handcuffed woman's cheek and pro-

ceeds to spit it across the screen. And Hollywood is in trouble? Who cares? I do. I am a free-lance screenwriter, and I watch audiences stand in line to pay good money to sit for two hours in a dark room to watch a big screen chock-full of bim-bam orgasms and multiple blood-spurting deaths. Are these same audiences, made up of mostly young and impressionable people, supposed to emerge from this movie with magic onto the streets and react with restraint and reason and politeness?

We Americans have hammered at the excesses of Wall Street. We rail at the White House and Congress about the budget deficit and bloated bureaucracies. We point fingers at minorities and youth about crack use. We blame the fast-food chains for cholesterol and calorie excess. What about Hollywood and the sale of violence? Senseless, numbing, addictive, excessive violence. It has become an industry. An industry that promises a studio less red ink in exchange for more red blood.

Clarence Thomas was on trial for alleged actions and dialogue that we see regularly on the screen. Sexual harassment is just background music for a \$60 million symphony of box office violence. It could even go unnoticed, if fear it will until Hollywood, like all role models, decides it has a role to play.

Mr. Montgomery, a free-lance screenwriter living in Manhattan, contributed this column to *The Washington Post*.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## To Fight the Hatemongers

Statesmen and religious leaders of the 1920s and '30s had some excuse for not responding to the ravings of the dictators; no civilized person could imagine that their outrageous goals were serious. Today's leaders have no such excuse.

Recent events leave no doubt that neo-Nazis, anti-Semites and racists are dead serious. These people are capable of going all the way: mass deportations, concentration camps, liquidations. The growing tide of hate-mongering will surely increase with each downward turn of the economic indicators. A United Nations conference on racism is long overdue. It could devise means to fight this scourge consonant with our justly cherished principles of free speech and expression.

ROBERT F. ILLING,  
Oporto, Portugal.

## Correction

In "Russians Think the Americans Could Help" (Opinion, Nov. 26), by Kevin Klose, an editing error replaced *Lenin* with *Stalingrad*. Mr. Klose's passage should read: "... as if Moscow were as mortally endangered as Leningrad during its 900-day encirclement by the Germans in World War II ..."

## Remember, Russia Has Oil

Regarding "Russia Is Being Drawn Eastward, Away From Europe" (Opinion, Nov. 6) by Leszek Buszynski:

Mr. Buszynski asserts that Russia will lose influence in Europe, due to Baltic, Ukrainian and Moldavian independence ambitions, and will be increasingly obliged to concentrate on its Asian borders. I do not think that Russia will lose its influence in Europe; rather, its influence will increase as long as it has something to sell that Europeans desperately need — oil.

Russia could also sell oil to Japan, and thus minimize its "weakness" vis-à-vis the Japanese. The Kuril Islands dispute remains to be settled, but the Japanese are businessmen, and if the price is right they will buy. Possibly they could also help set up the infrastructure that Mr. Buszynski says Russia lacks.

As for China, Mr. Buszynski takes us back to Alexander Solzhenitsyn's dire predictions of hellfire and the yellow peril, expressed in his "Open Letter to the Soviet Government" in 1973. The Soviet government has trade agreements with China, and although President Boris Yeltsin, like all Russians, is probably an emotional man, he would surely not allow personal antipathy to spoil neighborly trading relations, with China or others.

We Europeans should help Russia to solve our looming energy crisis and to

create an opening for trade with China, with its immense market. We should help Russia by all possible means to effect economic and societal changes without making the mistakes of Poland or of Yugoslavia, both of which are far closer to us geopolitically, but neither of which has oil.

KATIE CLARKE,  
Femey-Voltaire, France.

## A Compromise at the UN

The report "UN choice of Egyptian Disappoints U.S." (Nov. 23) says that while the U.S. officials acknowledged that Washington "wanted a younger, more dynamic secretary-general ... who could devote two vigorous five-year terms to taking the UN into the next century," the Bush administration "was unable to come up with an electable candidate who would have come closer to meeting Washington's criteria."

But the ideal candidate, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, 58, who fulfills all these criteria and more, was waiting in the wings to carry out this vital mission. His failing, presumably, was that he is a humanitarian, not a politician.

In Butros Butros Ghali's favor is his championship of the Camp David accords, his intellectuality and ability to speak French, and his Jewish wife.

GERARD MENUHIN,  
Gstaad, Switzerland.

## Padlock the Weapons

In response to "Yeltsin Risks Sliding Down the Same Slope as Gorbachev" (News Analysis, Nov. 12):

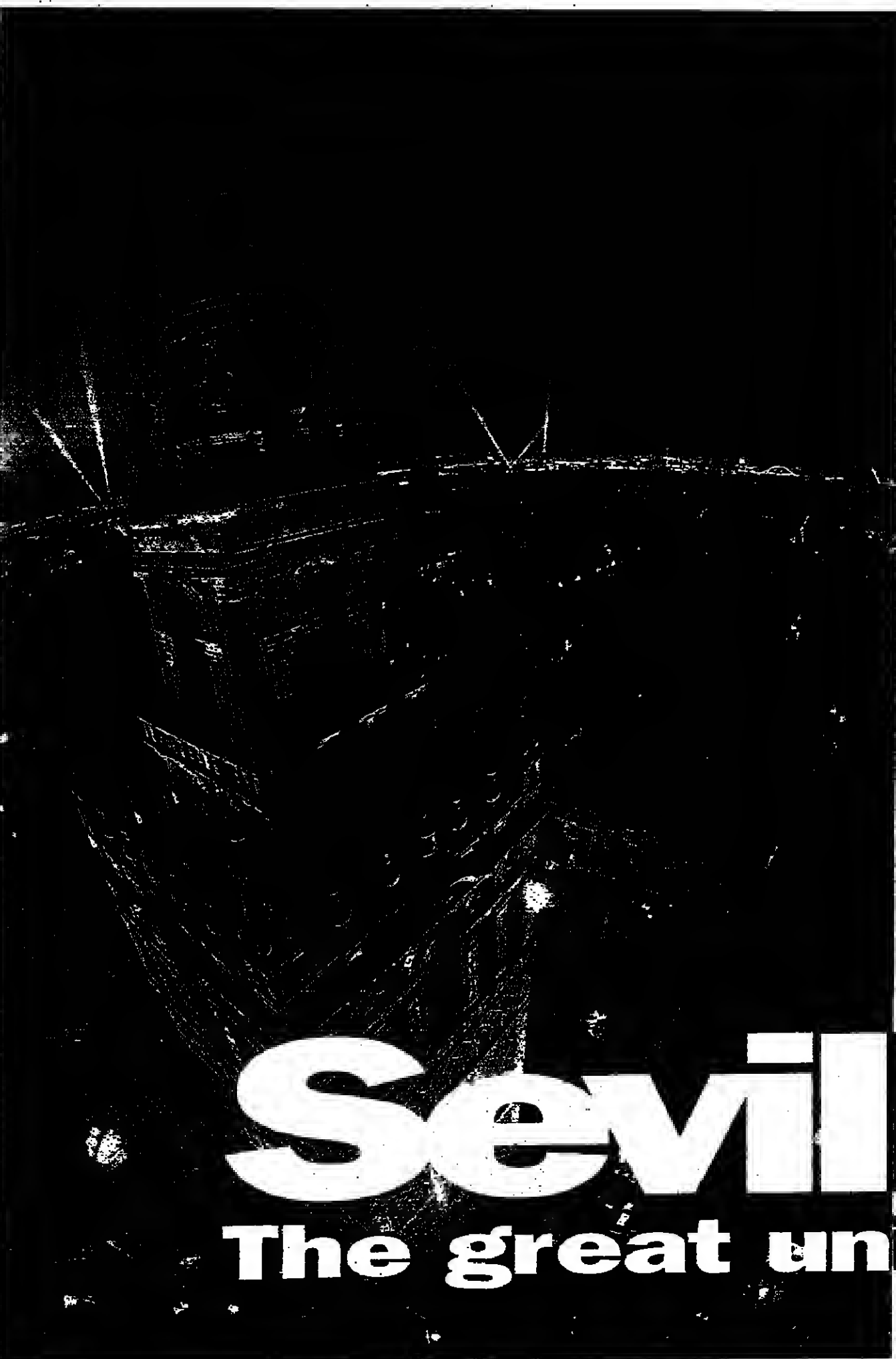
Before the mess called Russia further disintegrates, and the key to the nuclear stockpile is replicated beyond the control of the international community, that community must demand that Russia — in whatever form — act quickly and decisively to padlock all nuclear weapons within its former borders. Cajole, bargain with food and aid, promise trust as it must — the world cannot afford to put this matter off to a later time.

LAWRENCE R. GORDON,  
Santa Monica, California.

## Long Before Pearl Harbor

Regarding "Remember Pearl Harbor Fairly, Then Get On With the Future" (Opinion, Nov. 8) by William H. Homan:

The writer neglects to mention that the U.S. interdictio of Japanese oil supplies came after a decade of wanton destruction inflicted by Japan on its Asian neighbors in which their fanatical warlords murdered, tortured, imprisoned and generally oppressed millions on their way to their idea of a "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere."

N. J. YOUNG,  
Poole, England.

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## Gadhafi Won't Yield Pan Am Suspects

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ROME — The Libyan leader, Colonel Moammar Gadhafi, ridiculing allegations that Libya had carried out the bombing of Pan American World Airways Flight 103, said in a broadcast interview on Thursday that he would not surrender two Libyans accused of the attack.

"Libyan law, like the law of any other country, does not permit the delivery to American, English and French authorities of Libyan citizens suspected of carrying out the Lockerbie bombing," Colonel Gadhafi said in an interview with the Italian-owned television network Telemontecarlo.

"There are no extradition treaties between us and the United States and Britain since our relations have been broken with these two states," he said. Colonel Gadhafi also contended that there was no real charge against the two.

The United States and Britain reiterated on Wednesday demands that Libya surrender the two men indicted in the December 1988 bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, that killed 270 people. They also demanded compensation for the victims.

In the interview, Colonel Gadhafi said Libya was ready to make a humanitarian contri-

bution to the relatives of the victims on condition that "this is not seen as an admission of guilt in the attack."

He also said that the evidence against Libya in connection with the Pan Am bombing was "laughable."

"They affirm that they have decisive evidence against Libya and enough," he said. "This is disinformation and deceit of public opinion. We are asking that these investigations not be closed, and we challenge them to produce evidence against Libya. We are sure of ourselves 100 percent."

Colonel Gadhafi suggested that one of the indictments, against Abdel Basset Ali Megrahi, was a case of mistaken identity, saying that Megrahi was a common name. He described the other man, Lamen Khalifa Fhimah, as "a simple person who has nothing to do with politics or with the secret services."

The U.S.-British statement did not specify a deadline for compliance or mention specific sanctions if Libya rejected the requests.

"We are thinking in terms of weeks, not months," said a British official in London.

The United States and France, which is seeking four Libyans in connection with the 1989 bombing of a French jetliner that left 171 dead, also demanded that Libya "commit itself concretely and definitively to cease all forms of terrorist actions."

The new U.S.-British statement urged Libya to allow full access to witnesses, documents and material evidence, including timbers that could be used in bombing devices.

But Colonel Gadhafi said the Western allegations must be put before the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

"We insist they must produce the evidence in front of a neutral body," he said. "In that case Libya will assume its responsibility."

(AP, Reuters)

### Libya Said to Bar Carlos

The French daily Liberation reported Thursday that Libya had refused shelter to the internationally wanted terrorist known as Carlos, Reuters reported from Paris.

The newspaper said that Syria had tried to expel the terrorist, disguised as a Yemeni diplomat, to Libya in September, but that the Libyans had discovered his identity and sent him back to Damascus on the return flight.

There was no independent confirmation of the report.

## THREAT: Genscher a Target

(Continued from page 1)

war. A spokesman for the Bundeskriminalamt, or federal police, in Wiesbaden told Agence France-Presse that Serbian terrorists had targeted Mr. Genscher along with the president of his Liberal party, Otto Lambdorsch, and the son of the last Austro-Hungarian emperor, Otto von Habsburg, a rightist member of the European Parliament.

The spokesman, Hans-Georg Fuchs, said the Bundeskriminalamt also had sent warnings to police agencies in other countries. He declined to go into detail, but BZ, a tabloid newspaper in Berlin, said that those mentioned as possible targets included Foreign Minister Roland Dumas of France and his Italian counterpart, Gianni De Michelis.

BZ quoted intelligence sources as saying that the suspected terrorists in Germany were an Orthodox priest and a 39-year-old convicted criminal. They were reported to be members of the Serbian Chetnik militia, which takes its name from the royalist Serbian forces that fought the Nazis in World War II and the Communists after the war.

The Berlin newspaper added that U.S. authorities had been warned that terrorists might be planning attacks against the German and Austrian embassies in Washington. Austria is among the countries thought likely to recognize Croatia and the neighboring Yugoslav republic of Slovenia.

Any recognition by European governments would be contingent on Croatia giving guarantees of security for the Serbian and other minorities on its soil.

Mr. Kohl said other EC leaders agreed with him that "time is running out" on the recognition issue. Mr. Andreotti said his government was acting in step with Germany.

But President Francois Mitterrand of France has argued against immediate recognition of Croatia, saying that this would do nothing to end the civil war.

## SHUFFLE: Bickering Is Trivial, but Its Goal Is Not

(Continued from page 1)

in the Arab world and in the West, that Israel will surrender occupied territory. It is also because the United States would most likely favor a land-for-peace formula.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, associates say, is eager to avoid any major discussions on substance with the Arabs before February, when the U.S. administration and Congress are expected to take up Israel's request for \$10 billion in U.S. loan guarantees to finance the absorption of immigrants. A Shamir associate, Mr. Shamir, said that the Israeli government would not accept any linkage between U.S. support for the guarantees and Israeli concessions.

When President George Bush linked the Israeli aid package to the peace process in September by asking for a 120-day delay in considering the request, "he created a monster," the Israeli official said.

"Now that we are threatened by this monster," the official said, "you can't blame us for taking steps to avoid it. We can't just sit and allow the administration to use every possible leverage against us."

Predictably, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and the Palestinians are hoping for a rapid peace process, with heavy U.S. intervention, for the reasons that Israel hopes to avoid it. The Arabs hope the United States will use the loan guarantee request to force major Israeli concessions at the onset of talks, such as a freeze on Jewish settlement construction in the occupied territories.

Then, the Arabs are hoping to move quickly toward a settlement in which Israel will agree to retreat

behind its pre-1967 borders, largely through U.S. pressure rather than as a result of bilateral negotiations. Arab tactics since the Madrid peace conference four weeks ago have reflected these expectations. Instead of talking with Israel about the site and procedure for future talks, the Arab parties have communicated their positions to Washington. They have insisted on holding talks outside the Middle East, in order to accentuate international interest and involvement in the process.

The Palestinians have also handed American officials a long list of demands that require U.S. or UN intervention, such as granting Palestinian delegates United Nations travel documents and security guards, and providing international guarantees that Israel will not prosecute or harass Arab negotiators.

Palestinian leaders, meanwhile, have sought to raise expectations of rapid movement in the peace process. They have organized public demonstrations in which supporters have handed olive branches to Israeli soldiers. They have also set up "political committees" around the territories, nominally in order to prepare for the assumption of governing power.

An Israeli official participating in the talks with the Palestinians said, "After Madrid, some Palestinians began to behave as if in a matter of months, or even weeks, they were going to be bidding us farewell."

To counter the Palestinian effort, Israeli government measures have ranged from the trivial, such as telling Israeli radio not to broad-

cast too many peace songs, to substantive, such as avoiding "confidence-building measures" in the occupied territories suggested by the United States.

Mr. Shamir's insistence on continuing discussion about the venue of talks and his proposal Wednesday that the Washington meeting be delayed are intended in part to slow the pace and lower expectations. Originally, his government intended to talk only about procedural issues in Washington; only Wednesday did it agree that matters of substance, as proposed by the United States, could also be raised.

The other goal of Israel's procedural tactics has been to set limits for the role of the United States in the talks. By stubbornly resisting the attempt of Secretary of State James A. Baker 3d to set date, place and procedure for the talks, Mr. Shamir is hoping to deter the Bush administration from moving quickly to break future impasses. He wants to keep Washington from imposing its view that Israel should trade land for peace.

In Madrid, Mr. Bush and Mr. Baker sought to plot a fine U.S. policy course between the interventionism sought by the Arabs and the neutral, "honest broker" role demanded by Israel. But both sides now appear determined to test the American position, using the symbolic issues of dates and places.

"It is better to have a showdown early on a tactical issue, than to have it later on substance," said a diplomat who is closely monitoring the talks. "Both sides want to know now exactly what they can expect from the United States."

## POLICY: Bush, in Shift, Would Quickly Recognize Independent Ukraine

(Continued from page 1)

chev's government was losing its powers.

Officials emphasized Wednesday that Mr. Bush still supports Mr. Gorbachev. But they said U.S. policy had been shifting toward greater ties with the republics and a recognition that independence for some of them is inevitable.

In recent months, there has been a division within the administration's top foreign-policy councils over policy toward the Soviet

Union, officials said. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney had been pushing for some time for stronger ties to the republics, while Secretary of State James A. Baker 3d and Brent Scowcroft, the president's national security adviser, argued in favor of supporting the center, they said.

Mr. Bush's inclination was to stick to the established authority as long as possible, officials said.

On Tuesday, Mr. Bush met with Mr. Baker, Mr. Scowcroft and Mr. Cheney in the Oval Office and Mr. Scowcroft threw his support to Mr. Cheney's position, officials said.

"That tipped the scales," an official said, "and a formal decision was made to communicate the new policy to the allies so we can reach a coordinated and, hopefully unanimous, response."

The White House said it was prepared to take this action despite lingering disputes over Ukrainian-Russian borders, and said the United States would leave it to the Ukrainians and the Russians to resolve those differences.

In his meeting Wednesday with the Ukrainian-Americans, officials said Mr. Bush promised that the United States "will be prepared to salute Ukrainian independence" on Sunday and "that we will move forward on the issue."

In another sign of change in U.S. policy, an official said that this week, after the Senate ratified the treaty reducing conventional armed forces in Europe, known as the CFE Treaty, that Washington contacted "both Moscow — the

Russians — and Kiev — the Ukrainians — to urge them to ratify it as well."

After the vote Sunday, an official said, "we're going to be looking for good steps by the Ukrainian government, including ratification of CFE and the strategic arms treaty, a commitment on nuclear weapons and on minorities and human rights."

The United States has been warning the Ukraine against trying to gain control of the nuclear weapons on its soil for any purpose other than to destroy them.

The White House has also signaled that it would be reluctant to give aid to the Ukraine if it carried through on an announcement that it planned to develop its own military.

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## BLAND: A Battle Between Bacteria and Bureaucrats

(Continued from page 1)

which are considered "genuine" because they are made from unpasteurized milk, mostly by small producers. But the same threat, she explained, hangs over all raw-milk cheeses, the Brie, Pont l'Évêque, Reblochon and other names close to the French epicurean heart.

Depending on who is talking, the planned edict on cheese either offers a prime example of how the consumer will be better protected in a unified Europe, or it illustrates what is wrong with an emerging super-state that seems bent on imposing tedious uniformity. Some specialists have defined the problem as a battle between the north of Europe, with its strict hygiene standards, and the more relaxed and flavor-rich south.

"I certainly would not be interested in working with pasteurized milk," snarled Francois Durand, who makes about 2,000 "true" cheeses a week on his farm in Cam-

bert and sees himself as part of a hallowed tradition.

For French producers like Mr. Durand, the first blow came a year ago, when bureaucrats in Brussels with a single sentence declared the death sentence for all raw-milk cheeses. The small number of *staphylococci* and other bacteria allowed under the new rule could be achieved only by pasteurizing the milk, heating it to 72 degrees centigrade (161 Fahrenheit).

Aghast, the cheese industry sent lobbyists to Brussels. In France, where cheese comes in hundreds of varieties, this industry is a power to be reckoned with. The French consume a per capita average of 22 kilograms (49 pounds) of cheese a year, second only to the Greeks in Europe and almost twice as much as Americans.

Regis Leseur, an official with the Ministry of Agriculture in Paris, blamed Americans and "others following them, like the British, the Danes and the Dutch," for being

obsessed with hygiene and opposing raw milk.

"Some countries think that to be healthy, something must be practically sterile," a colleague scoffed.

France "will do everything we can to protect our cheeses," Mr. Leseur said.

Now Brussels is reconsidering, and it has tentatively agreed to set norms for raw-milk cheese, which have not yet been specified.

Gerard Killy, a spokesman for the EC Commission in Brussels, said, "There has been a lot of scare-mongering."

"The point is that national criteria will disappear in the case of cheese," he said. "This is not about recipes or flavors but about food standards to protect human health."

That means that in cheese, certain bacteria like *salmonella* and *listeria* are bad. Mr. Killy said, "The debate is still on about *staphylococci* and *coli*," he said.

## BREAK: Not Soviet, Not Russian, but Not Seceding

(Continued from page 1)

and renamed after Mikhail I. Kalinin, a former Soviet president.

"Moscow moved resolutely to establish its presence, erecting banners praising communism, statues of Lenin and a towering concrete monument to the Soviet war dead next to an unmarked mass grave of fallen Nazi soldiers. Russians, Ukrainians and Byelorussians were moved in by the hundreds of thousands in a Kremlin program to populate the region with Soviets."

Most important, the Soviet military turned the Königsberg naval port, valued because it does not freeze in winter, into the center of its Baltic Fleet operations. The Kaliningrad area, which includes several Soviet Army bases in addition to the port, has been considered one of the most heavily militarized in the Soviet Union.

After the war, the resident Germans were expelled from their homes, and most fled. A small

group stayed, however, and tried to salvage the area's cultural heritage. "Don't destroy me, I was not a fascist," read a sign posted on a statue of the 18th-century German writer Friedrich Schiller as the Red Army invaded the city.

Forty-five years later, the statue remains, among other remnants of fallen Königsberg. Opened for the first time to outside visitors this year, the city in some ways seems eerily frozen at the moment it was conquered by the Soviet Army.

The 14th-century cathedral, heavily bombed in the war, still lies in rubble next to the grave of the philosopher Immanuel Kant, who lived and died here. "We started running the local German factories, too," said a Kaliningrad city council member, "and have done nothing to modernize them since."

In the last few years, the nationalist movement sweeping the Soviet Union has spread here, too. Svetlana Shaskich, a spokeswoman for

the Kaliningrad City Council, said in an interview. In the last year alone, she said, half a dozen nationalist groups have sprouted, including the Society of Old Prussia and a group dedicated to restoring the old German cathedral. Some of the members are ethnic Germans, but most are political activists of other nationalities.

The movement for a free Königsberg has been buoyed by the successful campaign for independence waged by neighboring Lithuania, a country of 3.4 million that now separates Kaliningrad from the rest of the Soviet Union and the Russian heartland.

The first step to independence — changing the region's name back to Königsberg — is well under way, activists said. But even if the name change goes through, securing independence will not be easy. Particularly with the impending loss of Baltic bases, the Soviet military is adamant in its claim to the area.



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Khmer  
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Attack

By William Bran...

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## Khmer Rouge Calls For 'Unity' After Attack on Leader

By William Branigan  
Washington Post Service

PHNOM PENH — The Khmer Rouge vowed to press ahead with the Cambodian peace agreement on Thursday despite a mob attack Wednesday that bloodied its titular leader and forced its delegation here to flee the country.

In a statement broadcast over its clandestine radio station, the Khmer Rouge, who are held responsible for more than 1 million deaths during their rule from 1975 to 1979, called on Cambodians to "unite and forget the past."

The broadcast appeared aimed at allaying concerns that the mob attack on the group's titular leader, Khieu Samphan, and other top Khmer Rouge officials might lead to reprisals by the radical guerrilla group and scuttle the tenuous peace process.

The capital appeared calm a day after a mob ransacked the new Khmer Rouge headquarters, beating and nearly lynching Mr. Khieu Samphan only hours after he had returned from nearly 13 years in exile. He came to participate in a meeting of Cambodia's Supreme National Council, a reconciliation body set up under the terms of a United Nations-sponsored peace agreement signed last month in Paris.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the president of the council, said Thursday that the Khmer Rouge had agreed to attend an emergency meeting of the body next week in Thailand, to continue the peace process. He said the Khmer Rouge would return to Phnom Penh "on the day Hun Sen can give a solid, serious guarantee of safety for them," Agence France-Presse reported.

The former Cambodian monarch, who was recently named head of state after returning from exile, was referring to the prime minister of the Phnom Penh government, which was installed when Vietnamese invasion forces routed the Khmer Rouge in 1979.

In its radio statement, the Khmer Rouge questioned the motives of those who attacked its headquarters, but stopped short of blaming the Hun Sen government. The statement suggested that the attackers "oppose peace and democracy and the Paris agreement." It indicated that the Khmer Rouge would "continue to further

implement this Paris agreement well, correctly and meticulously." "We are of the opinion that Cambodians of all bents should not quarrel and fight against one another," the statement said. "All Cambodians should unite and forget the past, which is caused not by Cambodians."

It called on Cambodians to "maintain a mature and stable attitude" and said the Khmer Rouge would "not fall into the trap" of those who wanted to ruin the peace agreement. It said the full Supreme National Council should be headquartered in Phnom Penh.

[China, the main foreign supporter of the Khmer Rouge, issued a statement Thursday urging Cambodia to guarantee the security of members of Cambodia's Supreme National Council, Agence France-Presse reported from Beijing.

"We were shocked to learn of the violent incident that took place in Phnom Penh and are deeply concerned over it," said the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, Wu Jianmin. "The Phnom Penh side has a responsibility to ensure the normal operation of the Supreme National Council."

Mr. Khieu Samphan, 60, was taken to an undisclosed location after arriving in Bangkok on Wednesday aboard a special Kampuchean Airlines flight. He suffered a light head wound and did not require hospitalization, officials in Bangkok said. Accompanying him and his entourage was Son Sen, 61, the former Khmer Rouge defense minister who also sits on the Supreme National Council.

Mr. Son Sen arrived in Phnom Penh on Nov. 17 to set up the Khmer Rouge office and attracted little attention. But he was trapped inside the Khmer Rouge villa when the mob attacked it on Wednesday.

The Phnom Penh government, which has been battling the Khmer Rouge and two non-Communist guerrilla groups, said after the Khmer Rouge departure that it regretted the mob attack and remained committed to the Paris peace treaty.

On Tuesday, Mr. Son Sen had appeared relaxed and affable as he boasted to interviewers that the Khmer Rouge delegation had been "so warmly welcomed by our compatriots."

He said Cambodians "call me 'uncle.'"



MAKING DO IN NEW DELHI — Homeless infants in New Delhi sleeping in makeshift cradles, while an older child tended a fire at a roadside kitchen. Many in the capital lack a home.

## U.S. Reported to Begin Withdrawal of Nuclear Arms From South Korea

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL — The United States has begun to withdraw its tactical nuclear arms from South Korea, officials were quoted as saying Thursday.

The United States started the removal following North Korea's announcement this week that it would conditionally accept outside inspection of its nuclear facilities, the Yonhap news agency reported.

Yonhap quoted a South Korean official as saying that "our govern-

ment can confirm the U.S. arms withdrawal," adding that the removal could be completed within a few weeks.

"All procedures should be completed before President Bush's trip," Yonhap quoted the official as saying. Mr. Bush is due to visit here Jan. 5-7.

Jim Coles, spokesman for the combined U.S.-South Korean military command, declined to confirm the report, saying: "We neither

confirm nor deny the existence of nuclear weapons here at any time."

According to widely published reports, the United States has an estimated 60 air-delivered nuclear bombs at Kunsan Air Base and about 40 nuclear artillery shells. The Bush administration had planned to remove the artillery shells first.

A senior South Korean official specializing in security affairs said he could not comment on the Yon-

hap report. The same official, however, said Seoul would soon be in a position to announce that South Korea was free of nuclear weapons.

In a statement Monday, North Korea said it would sign an international agreement allowing inspections when the United States "begins to withdraw" its nuclear weapons from South Korea.

North Korea said, however, that direct talks should be opened with the United States to discuss simul-

taneous parallel inspections of suspected nuclear weapons sites in both parts of Korea.

The United States, closely allied with Seoul, has been reluctant to deal directly with North Korea, which it has no formal ties.

The United States has about 40,000 troops stationed in South Korea under a mutual defense treaty.

North Korea is believed to be nearing capability to produce the

elements for nuclear weapons, according to some estimates, within two years. North Korea contends that its nuclear program is strictly for peaceful purposes, but so far has rejected independent verification.

North Korea joined the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in 1985 but has refused to sign a required safeguards agreement allowing inspections. South Korea has signed.

(AFP, AP)

## ASIAN TOPICS

### Are the Dead at Rest In the Killing Fields?

Among the sugar palms 15 kilometers (9 miles) south of Phnom Penh stands the Choeung Ek Genocide Center, amidst Cambodia's killing fields. Glass cases display the skulls of 8,000 people shot, strangled or fatally bludgeoned in the vicinity during the Khmer Rouge regime of 1975-79, which was responsible for the deaths of over 1 million Cambodians.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who has returned to the capital as president of an interim government, wants the skulls, and those at the former Toul Sleng prison in Phnom Penh, either buried or cremated in accordance with Buddhist custom. He wants both memorials dismantled immediately. Government officials disagree.

"If you continue to make an exhibition of the skulls we will not have peace," the prince said. "We must liberate the souls of the dead."

Many ordinary people also want the dead buried or cremated. The Khmer Rouge consider the memorials bad publicity and have asked for the sites to

be dismantled. But Prime Minister Hun Sen and other officials have refused to do so.

"Those who want to close Toul Sleng are recommending genocide," Hun Sen said recently.

For Our Ros, 53, who grazes his cattle over the fields littered with human bone fragments and bits of clothing, the twice yearly rituals at the genocide center are enough to protect the souls of the dead.

"We have to keep this here forever," he said. "If they take it down, we will lose this memory, this testimony."

### Around Asia

Construction of the world's longest land tunnel is to start this week in northern Japan. Linking Iwate and Aomori prefectures by bullet train through the mountains, it will be 25.8-kilometers (16 miles) long. Construction is expected to take 10 years and cost 237.1 billion yen (\$1.8 billion). At present, the world's longest tunnel under land is the 22.5-kilometer Oshima tunnel in northern Japan. Also in northern Japan is the world's longest undersea tunnel, the 53.85-kilometer Seikan Rail Tunnel under Tsugaru Strait between the islands of Honshu and Hokkaido.

Mongolia, in the latest move to distance itself from communism, has changed its official name.

### Japan's Golf Courses Pose a Health Hazard

Golf, Japan's national pastime, may be generating a serious health hazard because of pesticide poisoning, according to a study by the 70,000-member Japan Medical and Dental Practitioners. It said nearly two out of five of the agricultural poisoning cases they had treated involved people working at or living near golf courses.

Of the 1,436 patients treated for pesticide poisoning nationwide between June 1990 and May 1991, 536 patients, or 37.3 percent, were employees of golf courses, amateur golfers or people living next to the links. It said most of the other cases involved farmers who handled pesticides or people who ingested the chemicals by accident or to commit suicide.

Japan has 1,800 courses, and 1,440 more are either under construction or being planned, according to industry figures. Nearly 15 million people, or more than 12 percent of the 120 million Japanese, play golf.

Arthur Higbee

## China Reported To Open Trial of Dissident Leader

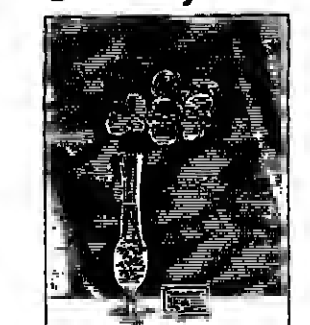
The Associated Press

BEIJING — Zhai Weimin, one of the student leaders of the 1989 pro-democracy movement, went on trial Thursday, Chinese sources said. He was arrested in 1990 on charges of founding an anti-government organization. The trial comes as the government is believed to be preparing to release other dissidents and allow some to go abroad in response to Western pressure.

The contradictory actions show the Chinese leaders to be torn between punishing those who challenged their power, and showing leniency to help mend relations with the West and attract trade and investment.

Mr. Zhai, about 23, was considered a special case because he not only helped lead the protests but afterward claimed to have founded a secret organization that was working to spread democratic ideals. There was no official confirmation of his trial.

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## Togo Troops Overthrow Transitional Government

Reuters

LOME, Togo — Togolese troops seized power on Thursday, toppling Prime Minister Kokou Koffigoh's four-month transitional government in a coup.

Diplomats in radio contact with the capital, Lome, said at least 15 people had been killed in clashes between pro-democracy campaigners and the soldiers, who took over state radio and television to announce Mr. Koffigoh's overthrow.

The diplomats said the death toll could rise to 50 or more. Togo's telephone and telex links with the outside world were cut by mid-morning. Airports and land borders were closed.

Heavy fighting rocked the north of the seaside capital in a residential area where many members of President Gnassingbe Eyadema's Kabiy  tribe live. General Eyadema was stripped of all but ceremonial powers in August.

Virtually all stores, banks and offices in Lome were closed and streets were deserted, diplomats and residents said. They said heavily armed troops moved along main thoroughfares to take up positions early on Thursday, but the city was calm by afternoon and no shooting could be heard. "It's not clear who is in control," one diplomat said.

## Tokyo Stalls Troop Vote To Avoid a 'Cow Walk'

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Threatened with obstructive tactics by the opposition, leaders of the governing Liberal Democratic Party decided Thursday to delay parliamentary action on a bill that would allow Japanese ground troops to be sent abroad for the first time since World War II.

The leadership decided on a one-day postponement — until Friday — at the request of the small Komeito Party, which asked the Liberal Democrats to allow a cooling off period after the opposition threatened to disrupt the vote with such tactics as the "cow walk."

In a "cow walk," each protesting lawmaker inches his way up to the bellows box step by tiny step, greatly delaying the vote. A Komeito official said his party wanted to avert a spectacle that might damage public trust in parliament.

While the Liberal Democrats command a majority by themselves in the lower House of Representatives, they need the cooperation of Komeito for a working majority in the upper House of Councillors.

The bill at issue would allow the government to send up to 2,000 lightly armed soldiers to join international peacekeeping operations. Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa wants the first group available for duty in Cambodia sometime next year.

The proposal is a source of strong controversy in Japan. Opponents consider it to be at least a moral violation of the country's constitution, which forbids the use of force in settling international disputes. Some see it as the possible start of a Japanese military revival.

Some of Japan's neighbors also have misgivings. China, for example, reminded Japan on Thursday that any dispatch of its troops overseas was an extremely sensitive topic and called on Tokyo to act with care.

## Gorbachev Calls Japanese Treaty His Primary Goal

Reuters

TOKYO — President Mikhail S. Gorbachev says a long-delayed World War II peace treaty with Japan is the Soviet Union's main diplomatic goal, the Japanese news agency Kyodo Tsushin reported Thursday.

"A Japan-Soviet peace treaty is the most important diplomatic issue for the Soviet Union," Mr. Gorbachev was quoted as telling a Kyodo editor, Katsumi Endo, in Moscow.

"I think that under the new atmosphere we can drastically shorten the period before a peace treaty is signed," Mr. Gorbachev said.

In successive treaty negotiations, the two countries have disagreed over the ownership of the Kurils, a group of islands northeast of Hokkaido held since World War II by the Soviets.

Tokyo has long insisted that, without a peace treaty, it will not give the huge amount of economic aid the Soviet Union seeks.



## Books: Getting to The Top

### Who Chooses Best-Sellers?

By Richard E. Smith  
International Herald Tribune

**F**RANKFURT — You need a book as a Christmas present and have a half hour to shop. Chances are you will take a look at a best-seller list. At a glance, you can see what everybody else is reading. But have you ever wondered who exactly everybody else is?

Critics of best-seller lists, including many authors who are not on them, zero in on two problems: Who is asked, and how reliable is the information?

"These things have to be based on a sample and are never going to be perfect," said Simon Westcott, an executive with Bookwatch, a company that compiles lists for the Sunday Times of London and several other British publications.

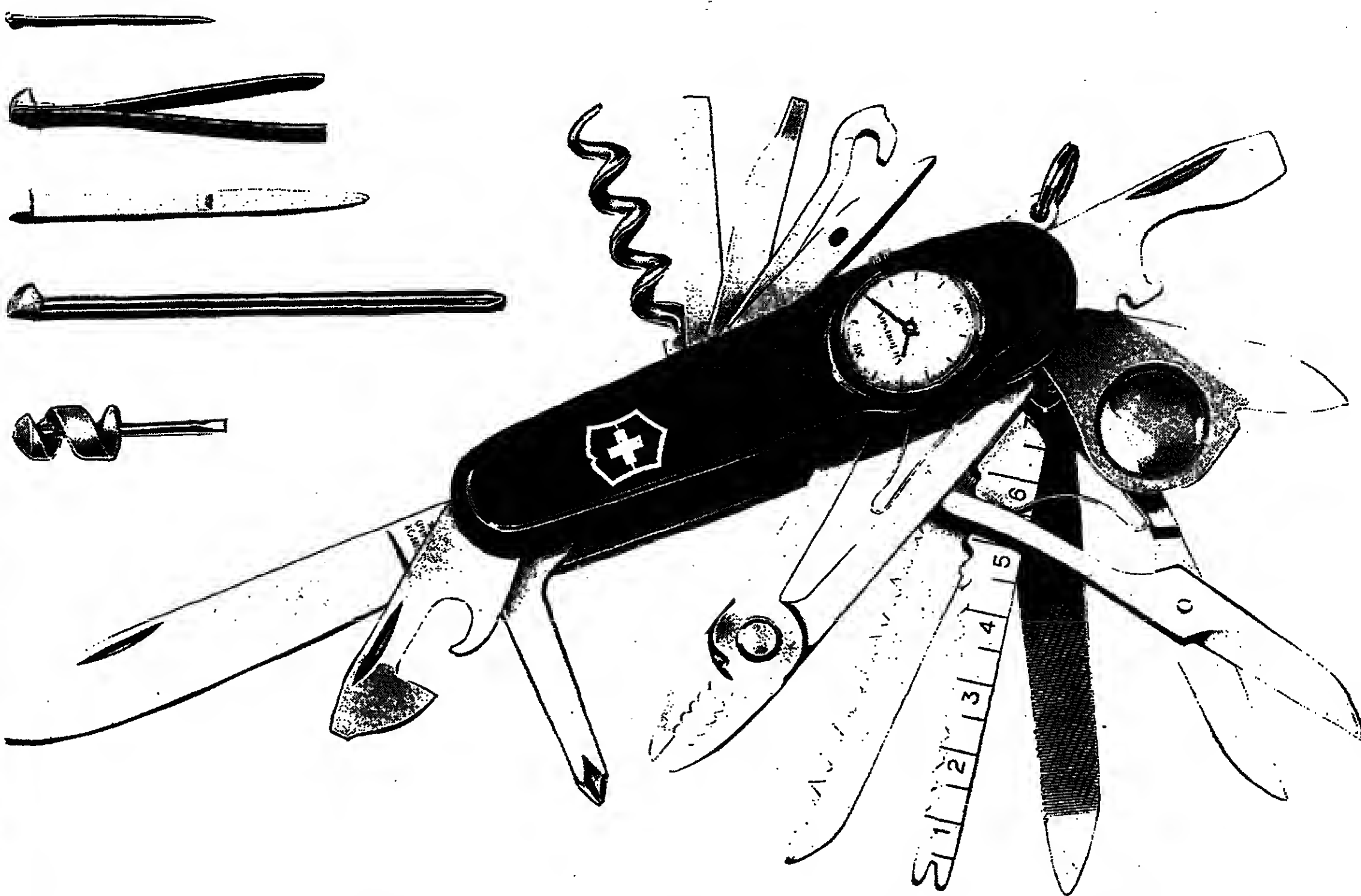
All the major list makers turn to booksellers for their information. The New York Times uses 2,000 stores, Der Spiegel in Germany uses 220, and the British papers use 120 to 130. The stores run the gamut from large chains to neighborhood shops.

The names of the booksellers generally remain top secret to prevent ambitious authors or publishers from skewing the figures and hitting the lists by buying large numbers of their own books.

"The names of booksellers used for our lists are kept as secret as the keys to the crown jewels," said William Adler, a spokesman for The New York Times. "Our people who analyze data look for any unnatural shifts and are sophisticated in spotting anything which seems unlikely."

But even if this sort of hoax is unlikely to pay off, the lists are subject to other kinds of distortion. For example, significant portions of some national markets — book clubs, supermarkets and kiosks — often are unrepresented on lists because they are difficult to track.

"Supermarkets account for 25 percent of



## Swiss Army Knife at 100: Variations on a Theme

By Mary Blume  
International Herald Tribune

**P**ARIS — The famous line uttered by Orson Welles in "The Third Man" about Switzerland's having contributed nothing to civilization but the cuckoo clock was terribly unfair. There is also the Swiss Army knife which carries the country's red and white flag to more than 100 nations in every part of the world.

While Switzerland celebrated its 700th birthday quietly this year, the Swiss Army knife with equal rectitude celebrated its centenary last month. It is made in Ibach, in the canton of Schwyz, by Victorinox, owned by the same family of cutlers who were commissioned to make a pocket knife for Swiss soldiers in 1890. The first model was delivered the following year.

"It had a large blade, a can opener, a

screwdriver and a reamer all on one side. On the other side was nothing," says Carl Elsener Jr., whose great-grandfather invented the knife. "It was very strong but a little heavy so my great-grandfather decided to make a more elegant knife for officers which had a corkscrew and a second blade." The office's version, red-handled and with implements on both sides, came out in 1897 and is the standard Swiss Army knife of today.

Talking by telephone from Ibach, Elsener said that enlisted men are still issued the knife while officers must buy theirs retail. But the Swiss market is minor: Victorinox, which continues to make household, gardening and butchers' knives, now exports 90 percent of its Army knives.

Elsener estimates that 150 million people have bought the knife. "Sometimes we ask ourselves how this is possible," he said.

Another Swiss company, Wenger, also makes official knives for the army which resemble Elsener's, and counterfeit knives — of very poor quality, Elsener sadly notes —

*The Champ has 32 folding features and was displayed in New York's MOMA.*

are pouring out of the Far East, but Victorinox clearly has the edge, adding accessories to the point where its Swiss Champ, which retails for 69 Swiss francs (about \$48), has 32 folding features and was displayed in New York's Museum of Modern Art.

A new model Elsener is very proud of has a Swatch embedded in its handle. "We had the idea 15 years ago but there were no watches with batteries small enough then." The company has also made silver-handled knives for Tiffany's and, if the demand is sufficient and retooling not too complicated, will add accessories on request.

"At the moment we are planning a knife with special features for golfers and we have made one for pharmaceutical companies with a spatula," Elsener says he usually has two of his knives in his pockets; the dainty key-sized Classic with a small blade, a nail file with screwdriver tip, scissors, toothpick, and tweezers, and the new Timer with a watch in its handle. He may be the only man in Switzerland who doesn't wear a wrist-watch.

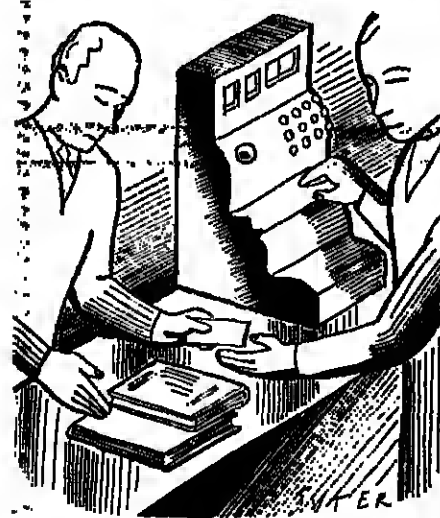
The Classic has long been a traditional White House gift, but instead of a red handle with the Swiss flag it is then made in blue or

black with the presidential seal and the signature of Lyndon B. Johnson, Ronald Reagan, or George Bush.

Among the accessories now found on the Swiss Army knife are a tracheotomy blade, an orange peeler, a fish scaler, and a magnifying glass. Elsener is trying to figure out a way to add a thermometer.

"The constant addition of new features is not only a reply to market demand: It is a way of avoiding the unpleasant fact that Victorinox's patents last only 20 years. 'Each new item that we put onto the knife gives a new 20-year patent,' Elsener says.

Victorinox has 950 employees and makes 40,000 pocket knives a day as well as 16,000 household and butchers' knives. The Swiss Army knife is arguably the most successful single product ever manufactured but the glorious centenary of this simple product passed without speeches or champagne. "We just made more knives," Elsener said.



David S. Jones/IST

French book sales," said Isabelle Grenet, one of the compilers of the list used in the weekly magazine L'Express. "but it is difficult to ask the stores about this because book sales make up only 1 percent of their sales."

The second soft spot of a best-seller list is the quality of the information the bookstores provide. Some list makers leave it entirely to booksellers to compile data on sales, but others have begun using purchase records made electronically at the point of sale.

EPOS, or electronic-point-of-sale, data allow the list maker direct access to the bookseller's records, preventing any bookseller from skewing data through sloppiness or for questionable motives.

Der Spiegel's list, for example, was recently attacked in the German press as being partially based on subjective impressions of booksellers, which might tempt some to overstate a book's popularity in the hope of getting it off untested stocks.

Bookwatch of Britain says that 20 to 30 percent of its data comes directly from EPOS data and that it plans to make its data collection fully electronic eventually.

Other list makers agree that EPOS is the path of the future, but they usually are reluctant to say much about their current methodology.

In the meantime, don't expect too many complaints. No matter how angry an author, publisher or bookseller is at last week's results, there is always next week — and it pays to tread carefully with such powerful opinion makers.

When the German television program "Monitor" recently criticized Der Spiegel's list, for example, one of the booksellers interviewed spoke with her back to the camera and with her voice distorted to protect her identity.

"We are talking about some of the best free advertising that a book can get," said Westcott.

## HEAR THIS

■ You can't stop progress. A company in San Diego is marketing NiteMates, described as a "unique, functional gift to brighten up someone's holiday season": terry-cloth slippers with built-in, battery-powered headlights. The light switch is in the heel, and the lens covering the krypton bulb allows for wide-angle beams. You'll never step on the dog again. Information, if you really want it, from Altman Productions, 7965 Dunbrook Road, Suite A, San Diego, California, 92126; tel: (619) 530-4850.

## The Ghouls Next Door

By Charles Hagen  
New York Times Service

**N**EW YORK — It's not hard to see why the Addams Family would translate so well from New York cartoons to a long-running television show, and now to a movie.

A selection of Charles Addams' original cartoons and watercolors for The New Yorker, on display at the National Academy of Design, demonstrates that the characters who came to be known as the Addams Family — Morticia, Gomez, Lurch, et al. — offered a decidedly contrary picture of the folks next door. Addams' popularity reached its peak in the 1940s and '50s, when the nuclear family was being trumpeted as the backbone of democracy and civilization.

The Addams Family, though, provided a deliciously subversive view of the matter. What parent of battling siblings could fail to chuckle at the 1944 cartoon in which, with Pugsley smirking in the background, Morticia tells a startled Wednesday: "Well, don't come whining to me. Go tell him you'll poison him right back."

The Addams Family members faced typical sitcom predicaments, but used a refreshing wickedness to resolve them in unexpected ways.

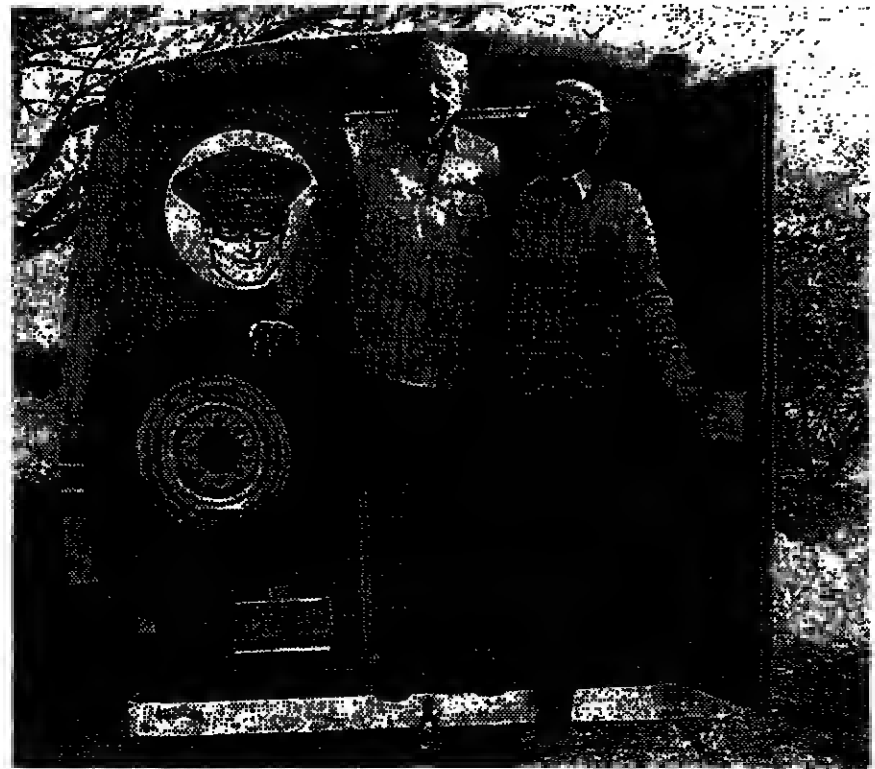
But there was more to Addams than the Addams Family. This show includes examples of the cartoonist's work ranging from a 1938 cartoon in which a sheep nuzzles a sleeping shepherd and bleats, "Meow," to a wonderful New Yorker cover that ran in 1989, a year after Addams' death. In this image, a field of pumpkins beneath an autumn moon is disturbed only by the knife that is busily carving one pumpkin into a jack-o-lantern — from the inside.

Addams' best cartoons rely on a smart, understated brand of humor. In one New Yorker cover from 1949, a gigantic telescope looms over the tiny figure of a gray-suited astronomer who diligently wipes his glasses.

Also to be found here are many of Addams' classics, among them the image of a woman running along the beach, head back, shouting, "George! George! Drop the key!" Only after a moment do we notice the shadow of a gigantic bird flying above the sand, a man in its mouth.

This show is a visual treat for families, nuclear or otherwise. For best effect, it should be seen on a rainy day, as Gomez said in a 1952 drawing, "Just the kind of day that makes you feel good to be alive!"

"Hallowed Haunts: The Drawings and Watercolors of Charles Addams" runs through Jan. 12.



The cartoonist Charles Addams, and his wife, Marilyn, in 1981.

## THE MOVIE GUIDE



Antoine Baster and Thomas Langmann in "Paris s'éveille," left. Jocelyn Moorhouse, writer-director of "Proof."

**Paris s'éveille**  
Directed by Olivier Assayas.  
France, Pan Européenne.

Adrien (Thomas Langmann), a young runaway, comes home to find his father (Jean-Pierre L aud) living with 18-year-old Louise (Judith Godr che). Louise plays a caricatured sequel to the wonderfully intense boy he was in so many Truffaut films. Louise has cropped hair, like Jean Seberg in "Breathless"; she is the ambivalent female between men, looking to break out, shooting for comfort and some twirly idea of the brilliant life. Adrien is the pure element — he has given up on his father, but wants something from Louise. They take off to live in a crayon-colored squatter's paradise. The photography has a lot of flash and energy, but the characters are as fluorescent as the lighting. They carry, and transmit, more chemical than emotional charge. (Joan Dupont)

**Proof**  
Directed by Jocelyn Moorhouse. Australia, AMLF.  
In her first film, Moorhouse builds on an ingenious idea: She plants her camera directly facing the main character, a blond man. Martin (Hugo

Weaving) takes photos to make a record of the unseen world, depending on Celia (Genev ve Fiori), his controlling housekeeper, to interpret his pictures, to give proof to his reality. We see everything he doesn't see — the brutal cruelty on faces around him, the overexposed green landscape, and his pictures, the ones he takes, and photos of him that Celia has put on her wall. For he has trusted the wrong woman — Celia is secretly in love with him; when he resists, she steps up her seductive power play. He turns to another interpreter, Andy (Russell Crowe), but the housekeeper seduces Andy away from him. Picot plays Celia with startling malevolence, and there are at times too many metaphors for one film, but it has fine moments. (Joan Dupont)

**Nowhere Man**  
Directed by Naoto Takenaka. Japan, Shochiku.

This film is the directorial debut of one of Japan's newer comedians. In this adaptation of a popular cartoon series he also plays the lead — a man who is a *mujo no hito* (the Japanese title), a man without a brain. He has one but he no longer wants to use it. He has

come to distrust Japanese corporate society in all of its forms, and so instead gathers rocks from the river bed and tries to sell them. But rare rocks are also big business in Japan. The film is filled with funny insights and many ironic quotes from the manga world it came from. Even the ending (family off down the long dark road to nowhere) is a pop clich  stood on its head. A strange combination of knowing and innocence, of melodrama and comedy, of warm and cool, of the satirical and the straight, the film was a big success at the Tokyo Film Festival. (Donald Richie)

**Don Juan in Hell**  
Directed by Gonzalo S ndez. Spain, Ditrumbo Films, with TVE.

S ndez's first movie since "Rowing With the Wind" (1987) continues his penchant for rich dialogue and compelling imagery. His script takes inspiration from Moli re. Here, the myth of the indefatigable Don Juan merges with the death of faith-driven Philip II and the decline of Spain's 16th-century empire. The austere Escorial lends realism as an occasional backdrop. Don Juan (Fernando Guill n) and espe-

cially Do a Elvira (Charo L pez) reveal telling character complexities. (Al Goodman)

**The Addams Family**  
Directed by Barry Sonnenfeld. U.S., Paramount.

This is more laughs than a cauldron of whoopee cushions at a morticians' convention. The film is a compendium of Charles Addams' macabre drawings. Anjelica Huston and Raul Julia are ideal as the glamorous Morticia Addams and her doting husband, Gomez. Together they head a moldering ancestral manse, frequently dusted to no avail by the towering butler, Lurch (Carol Krumholz). Other residents are a disembodied hand, Thing (Christopher Hart); Grammy (Judith Malina); and the children, Pugsley (Jimmy Workman) and Wednesday (Christina Ricci). Although the plot is flimsier than cobweb it serves well enough, thanks to the designers' elaborate contributions and the performers' panache. The only truly scary thing is Grammy's cooking, which combines recipes from "The Joy of Cooking" with suggestions from "Gray's Anatomy." (Rita Kempley, WP)



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## INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

### An Airport Heading Into the 21st Century

Sixty years ago, when Imperial Airways began using Bahrain as a staging post for commercial flights to the outposts of the British Empire, few in the island could have imagined how large the airport would grow.

Today, it can handle up to 10 million passengers a year and is one of the most advanced in the region, thanks to the opening at the end of October of a new terminal and extensive cargo facilities. As a result, Bahrain can now

#### New terminal doubles area

look forward to becoming a transport hub of the Gulf and to playing a leading role in the reconstruction of Kuwait.

The decision to expand and update Bahrain International Airport was taken in the late 1980s to offset the effects of a decline in traffic due to the introduction of new, longer-range

and includes an extensive duty-free shopping area and restaurant facilities, as well as new baggage-handling equipment, 24-hour check-in desks, a children's playroom, a bank and a post office. The addition of seven air-conditioned bridges gives departing passengers direct access to the departure lounge, bypassing the arrivals section.

Phase Two of the project, due to be completed by next summer, will expand the shopping, catering, VIP, rest and transit areas even further through the refurbishment of the old terminal, built in the early 1970s. Conference and business services will also be added. "We are using the latest technology

the construction of a new flight catering center for Bahrain Airport Services. Built at a cost of \$22 million, it will have a capacity of 20,000 meals a day.

A new headquarters for the meteorological services has been completed and expanded car parking areas provided for passengers and airport staff. Finally, approach roads have been upgraded to two-lane roads — complete with two roundabouts — connecting to a new elevated road to the departure area.

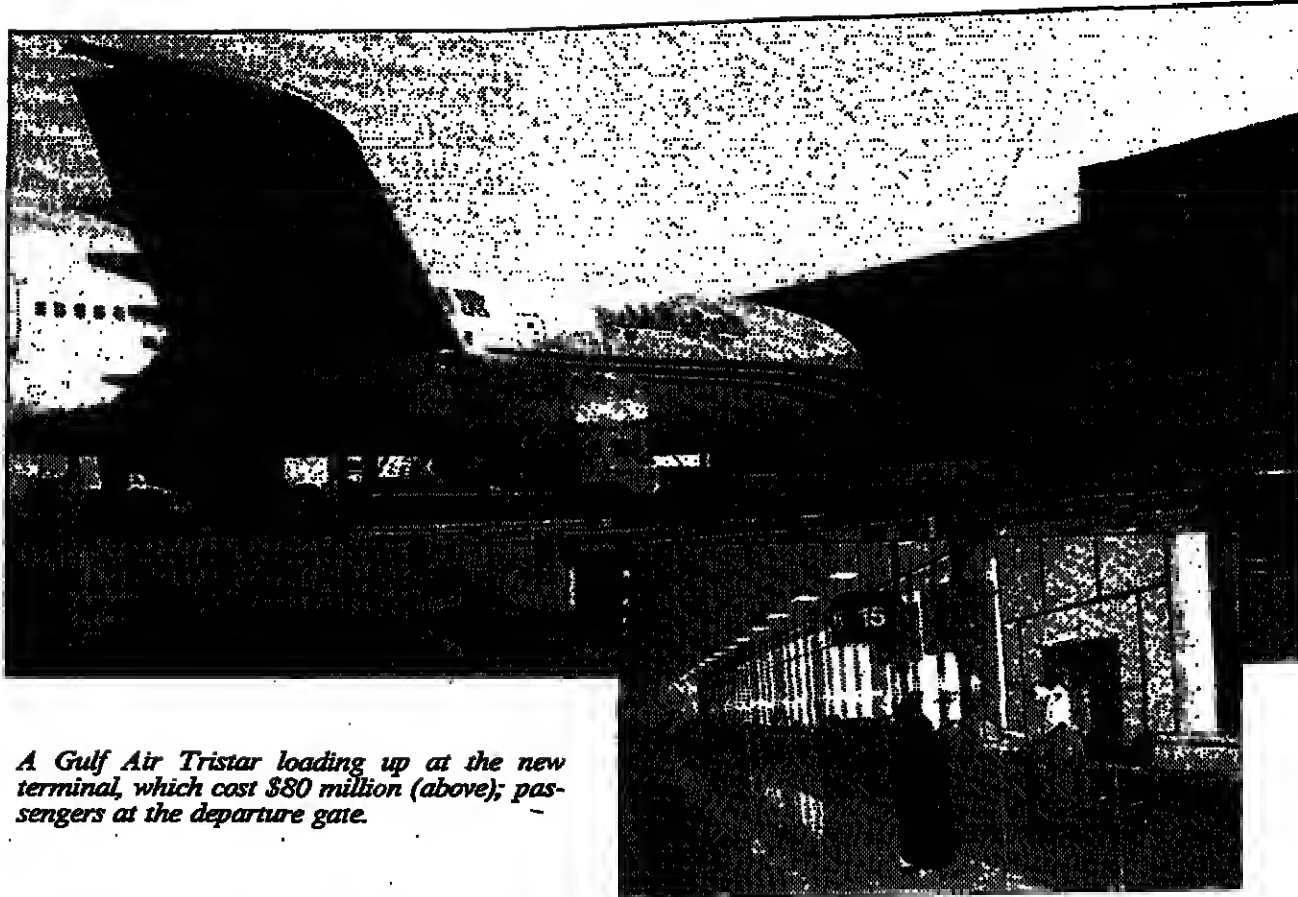
Air-freight facilities have also been enlarged around the separate cargo terminal opened in 1987. These now cover an area of more than 7,000 square meters and include extensive cold stores and deep-

ly to a free zone, it is to be developed in three stages, eventually occupying an area of 150 hectares.

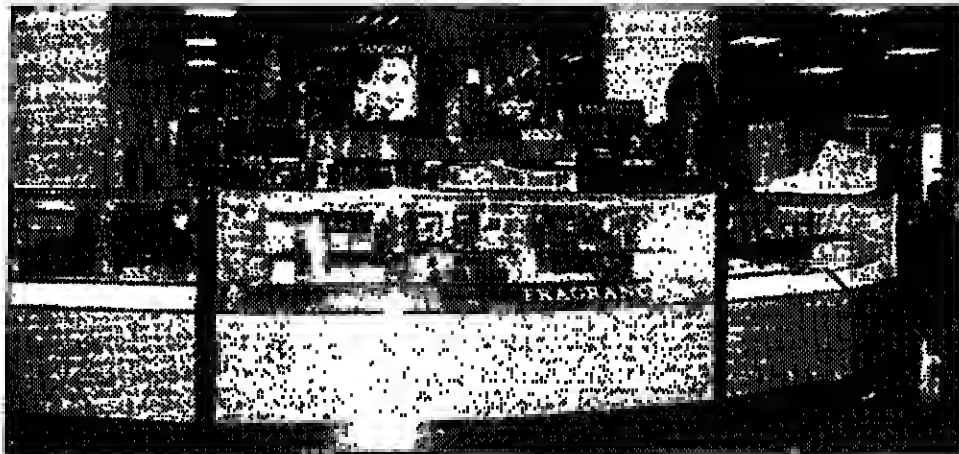
To make the best use of the new installations, CAA has begun a critical review of its pricing policies to ensure that Bahrain is competitive. The review covers landing charges, handling fees, catering and fuel costs and hotel rates. It is also implementing an "open skies" policy to attract new carriers and to develop new markets, which the CAA sees as vital to the enhancement of Bahrain's potential as a regional transport hub.

Promotion of the free zone is also a major target for CAA. Given the extensive bonded warehousing and aircraft cargo-handling facilities it will include, it is little surprise that DHL Worldwide Express, the international courier company, has decided to build a multi-million-dollar sorting center at the airport. Additional plans call for the speeding up of immigration and customs procedures and the elimination of red tape for both passenger and cargo customers.

In line with the Bahraini government's determination to provide new opportunities for local businesses and for its own skilled labor force, many of the airport installations have been built by Bahraini companies. Ahmad Mansour al-Ali was named prime contractor, and Bahrain Fibreglass (BFG), known for its desking systems, runway lighting equipment and boundary fencing, is the main supplier. BFG recently set up a



A Gulf Air Tristar loading up at the new terminal, which cost \$80 million (above); passengers at the departure gate.



Bahrain International Airport's new duty-free shop.

aircraft by the world's airlines and to the expected availability of additional air routes to Asia through the Soviet Union and China.

Officials of Civil Aviation Affairs (CAA), the agency responsible for the airport, viewed the project as a way to attract new scheduled carriers while protecting and enhancing services for those international airlines currently using the facility. These included the national carrier, Gulf Air, a joint venture of the governments of Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

The modernization program will "take us into the 21st century," says Sheikh Hamad bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, senior public relations executive of CAA. Its location and efficiency, he adds, "will help improve business links with the outside world" and make it truly competitive with other airports in the region.

The new terminal building, built at a cost of almost \$80 million, doubles the space available to departure and arrival areas

and airport operations, and we plan to update this all the time," says Sheikh Hamad.

The modernization also included several other projects designed to provide a package of services to all categories of the airport's customers. These include

freeze equipment capable of accommodating more than 65,000 kilograms of perishable goods.

More recently, the Ministry of Development and Industry approved the development of a major regional distribution zone at the airport. Operating sim-

new joint venture, Composite Design International, to provide a range of both ready-made and custom-designed units to airports in North America. In Asia, it operates a manufacturing plant in the Philippines to service its customers in the Pacific rim.

Structural steel for the airport expansion was provided by Mansouri Steel, a division of the Hasan Mansouri company. The firm began fabricating steel in 1974 for the local aluminum smelter run by Aluminium Bahrain, and

was the first company in Bahrain to meet British standards for steel fabrication. Operations are carried out at its local workshop, which has a capacity of 3,000 metric tons a year.

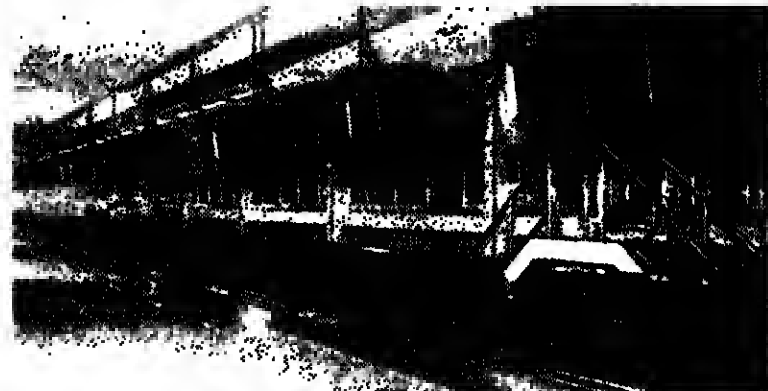
Universal Aluminium Co., part of the large Mohsin Haji Ali Group, provided 15,000 square meters of aluminum works for the airport, including sandwich panels for the air bridges. The group, which includes firms specializing in civil engineering, contracting, manufacturing and general trade, has also

been involved in major projects for the Bahrain Defence Force, including the construction of airport runways, water supplies and roadworks. "We have dedicated our energy and expertise to provide a mature and efficient service for our clients," says Abdul Ali Al A'Ali, managing director of the group.

In October 1932, when Imperial Airways, the forerunner of British Airways, leased land on Muharraq Island to build the first airport facilities, it recognized Bahrain's strategic location as a center of the Gulf and of Southwest Asia. With its centuries of experience as the dominant trading area in the region, Bahrain has taken the steps needed to ensure that importance continues. The existence of the most modern telecommunications facilities in the area, of an international offshore banking center in Bahrain and its reputation as one of the friendliest places to do business in the Gulf can only add to its prosperity in the future.

Pamela A. Smith

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## WALL STREET WATCH

## Companies Put New Twist On Convertible Preferred

By Ken Kohn  
Bloomberg Business News

NEW YORK — A new form of equity is emerging as a financing bonanza for Wall Street and much of corporate America. Percs, or preferred equity redemption cumulative stock, have raised more than \$2.3 billion for General Motors Corp., Texas Instruments Inc., American Express Co. and Broad Inc. since June. At least five companies have disclosed plans to sell almost \$2.4 billion more.

The reason? Unlike new common stock, Percs don't immediately dilute the earnings per share, and thus the stock price, of the company selling them. That's why companies like them.

Institutional investors are snapping up Percs because they have a higher fixed dividend than the common variety. Percs are publicly traded preferred shares that are convertible into one share of the issuer's common stock. The conversion price declines over the three-year life of the security.

Percs are the best way to raise equity capital with the minimum possible dilution of common stock," said William Aylesworth, chief financial officer at Texas Instruments.

Gary Langhain, director of equity research at Kemper Securities, said investors could make as much as 60 percent on their investment over three years. At worst, investors would make money holding the common stocks than the Percs, he said.

Certainly, Percs limit gains. Issuers may force investors to convert their Percs into common stock at any point and they must be converted into common after three years. Early conversions into common may enrich investors sooner because the conversion price drops during three years.

However, the company probably won't convert shares into common unless its stock price rises above the conversion level. At that point, investors may be forced to convert their Percs into common and receive less than a full share of common for each of their Percs.

THE BIGGEST Percs investor is Warren Buffett, the chairman of Berkshire Hathaway and interim chairman of Salomon Inc. Mr. Buffett purchased \$300 million of Percs from American Express in August. The securities pay an 8.5 percent dividend and can be converted into a 2.5 percent stake in American Express.

RJR Nabisco Holdings plans to sell about \$1.88 billion of the securities when its registration filing is approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Tenneco Inc. expects to issue \$500 of Percs. Other corporations are considering selling several billion dollars worth of Percs, investment bankers said.

GM's \$641 million of Percs have an 8 percent dividend, while its common yields 5.7 percent. Texas Instruments' \$306 million of Percs yield 7.75 percent and its common stock dividend is 2 percent. Kmart Corp.'s \$1.012 billion Percs yield 7.75 percent and its common yields 4 percent. Broad's \$78 million Percs shares have a dividend yield of 8.5 percent while its common yields 1.18 percent.

Texas Instruments sold 10.5 million Percs, priced at \$29.125 apiece, in September. The company's stock is now trading at \$28.25. Texas Instruments wanted to raise money by selling equity because its debt load swelled as semiconductor sales slumped, Mr. Aylesworth said.

Morgan Stanley & Co., which created Percs, is arranging the Percs offering for RJR Nabisco, along with Goldman, Sachs & Co. Morgan and First Boston Corp. are arranging the Percs sale for Tenneco.

Investment banking commissions on the sales ranged from 2 percent to 3 percent of the issues. Morgan Stanley was the sole underwriter for the issues for General Motors, Texas Instruments, and Kmart. The firm's fees from these transactions totaled \$46.6 million.

## CURRENCY RATES

Cross Rates	Nov. 28
Australian dollar	1.32 1.3171
British pound	1.65 1.6485
Canadian dollar	1.00 1.0000
French franc	6.55 6.5596
German mark	1.36 1.3603
Italian lira	1.36 1.3603
Japanese yen	100 100.00
Swiss franc	1.48 1.4800
U.S. dollar	1.00 1.0000

Source: Reuters, London. All rates are for 100 units of foreign currency per U.S. dollar. N.A.: not available.

## Other Dollar Values

Currency	Nov. 27
Australian dollar	1.32 1.3171
British pound	1.65 1.6485
Canadian dollar	1.00 1.0000
French franc	6.55 6.5596
German mark	1.36 1.3603
Italian lira	1.36 1.3603
Japanese yen	100 100.00
Swiss franc	1.48 1.4800
U.S. dollar	1.00 1.0000

Source: Reuters, London. All rates are for 100 units of foreign currency per U.S. dollar. N.A.: not available.

## Forward Rates

Currency	Nov. 27
Australian dollar	1.32 1.3171
British pound	1.65 1.6485
Canadian dollar	1.00 1.0000
French franc	6.55 6.5596
German mark	1.36 1.3603
Italian lira	1.36 1.3603
Japanese yen	100 100.00
Swiss franc	1.48 1.4800
U.S. dollar	1.00 1.0000

Source: Reuters, London. All rates are for 100 units of foreign currency per U.S. dollar. N.A.: not available.

## INTEREST RATES

## Eurocurrency Deposits

Term	Nov. 28
1 month	5.00 5.00
3 months	5.00 5.00
6 months	5.00 5.00
1 year	5.00 5.00

Source: Reuters, London. All rates are for 100 units of foreign currency per U.S. dollar. N.A.: not available.

## Key Money Rates

Term	Nov. 28
1 month	5.00 5.00
3 months	5.00 5.00
6 months	5.00 5.00
1 year	5.00 5.00

Source: Reuters, London. All rates are for 100 units of foreign currency per U.S. dollar. N.A.: not available.

## Asian Dollar Deposits

Term	Nov. 28
1 month	5.00 5.00
3 months	5.00 5.00
6 months	5.00 5.00
1 year	5.00 5.00

Source: Reuters, London. All rates are for 100 units of foreign currency per U.S. dollar. N.A.: not available.

## U.S. Money Market Funds

Fund	Nov. 27
1 month	5.00 5.00
3 months	5.00 5.00
6 months	5.00 5.00
1 year	5.00 5.00

Source: Reuters, London. All rates are for 100 units of foreign currency per U.S. dollar. N.A.: not available.

## GOLD

Term	Nov. 28
1 month	5.00 5.00
3 months	5.00 5.00
6 months	5.00 5.00
1 year	5.00 5.00

Source: Reuters, London. All rates are for 100 units of foreign currency per U.S. dollar. N.A.: not available.

## Asia Launches Satellite Spending Spree

By Michael Richardson  
International Herald Tribune

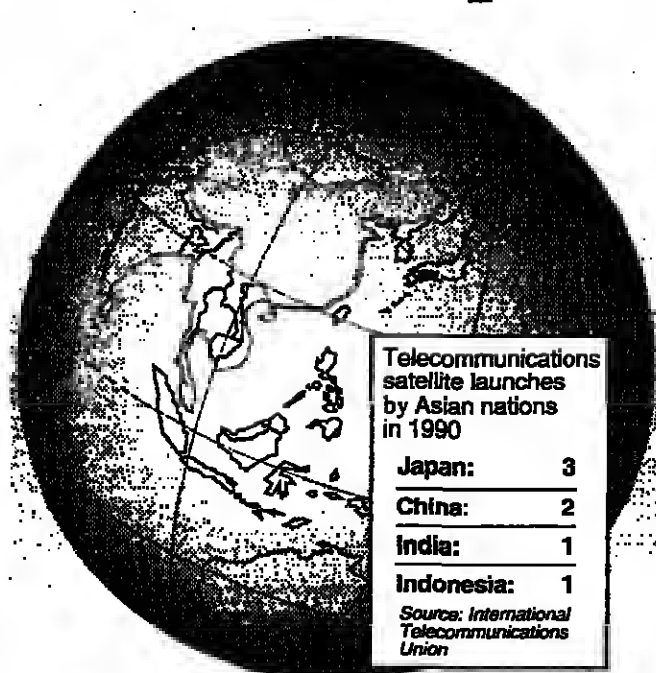
SINGAPORE — Countries in East Asia, vying to improve telecommunications at home and sell services to nearby nations, will spend nearly \$880 million over the next few years to build and launch new commercial satellites in the region.

Analysts said Thursday that the decisions of South Korea, Thailand and Malaysia to compete with Japan, China, Hong Kong and Indonesia as providers of regional satellite links would likely lead to cut-throat competition.

It also will reduce the region's reliance on Intelsat for television, radio, telephone, facsimile, telex and data transmission via satellite. Intelsat, the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization based in Washington, operates a global satellite network.

Satellite operators in East Asia will in future compete on the basis of price and service, including specialized facilities for education, commerce and industry, said Jonathan L. Parapak, president of Indosat, the state-owned company that operates Indonesia's international telecommunications system.

There is growing demand for a full range of high-quality communications services to keep pace with rapid economic growth in East Asia.



Asia. But many countries are having difficulty meeting this demand from both corporate and private subscribers.

Korean Telecom, a government agency, is due to announce the prime contractor for its first-ever communications satellite project, worth about \$400 million, in the next few weeks.

Officials in Seoul said companies bidding for construction of two satellites included Hughes Aircraft Co. and Loral Aerospace, both of the United States, and British Aerospace PLC of Britain. The sat-

## U.S. Opening Up Competition for Telephone Carriers

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — After long debate, the United States has decided to relax a long-standing restriction that prevents operators of private satellites from carrying international telephone calls.

The decision marks a compromise between Communications Satellite Corp., or Comsat, which staunchly defended the restriction, and a Connecticut entrepreneur, Rene V. Anselmo, who introduced the world's first privately owned international satellite in late 1988.

As founder of Alpha Lyracom Corp., Mr. Anselmo has built a \$30 million business based primarily on relaying television broadcasters' signals between the United States, Latin America and Europe.

Almost from the start, however, he has campaigned for permission to enter the much bigger business of carrying voice and data communications.

Under present rules, only satellites operated by Intelsat, a consortium owned by more than 100 governments, can relay international communications to and from the U.S. public-telephone network. Comsat represents the United States in Intelsat, and provides all ground stations in America that transmit and receive signals from the satellites.

In its decision, the government said it intended to allow full competition in five years and enable companies like Alpha Lyracom to serve private telephone networks operated by multinationals.

## Packer Said To Target Mirror Group

Reuters

LONDON — Speculation that the Australian media magnate Kerry Packer may have the Maxwell family's Mirror Group Newspapers in his sights drove the company's shares higher on Thursday.

Mr. Packer pulled out of a consortium bidding for the Fairfax newspaper group in Australia, a move analysts said could allow him

## Soviet Funds Near Depletion After Budget Boost Rejected

Reuters

MOSCOW — The Soviet parliament failed Thursday to approve additional credits for the central state budget, a development that the head of the state bank warned could halt government spending within two days.

Deputies in the upper house of parliament approved a credit of 90.5 billion rubles (about \$156 billion at the inflated official rate) to be granted by the state bank to the Ministry of Finance to cover the fourth-quarter deficit.

But the attempt collapsed because not enough deputies were present in the lower house, which also had to approve the measure.

The parliamentary resolution said the country's budget, credit and financial system had been destroyed. It accused President Mikhail S. Gorbachev of failing to oversee the "inconsistent and incompetent policy" of central government bodies.

The request for additional funds has run into strong opposition from the change-minded Russian Federation government under President Boris N. Yeltsin.

Yegor Gaidar, Mr. Yeltsin's deputy in charge of economic reforms, told reporters his republic was ready to pay for salaries and other necessary items. But he said it would not finance central authorities, whose spending was high and credibility low.

"Such a budget is unacceptable in principle. We are ready to take part of the expenses, though it is a heavy burden. We are also ready to reconsider and cut spending," Mr. Gaidar said. "But we are not ready to sign a blank check guaranteed by an institution that has no financial resources."

Viktor Geraschenko, head of the Soviet state bank Gosbank, said the Finance Ministry had only three billion rubles in its coffers, enough to cover the budget for the next two days.

He said once those reserves were exhausted, the ministry would be unable to pay the army, doctors,

teachers and police. And Gosbank was unable to grant any credits without a parliamentary decision, he added.

The lower parliament is not due to meet again until next Tuesday, when it will re-examine the matter.

In an apparent reference to the dispute with Russia, Mr. Geraschenko said the republics could take over their share of state spending. "But that means that we will finally have ruined the budget system of the country for this year. This is the way to full disintegration and chaos," he said.

Several republics, including Russia, have already stopped some contributions to the state budget.

Mr. Yeltsin's cabinet considered a series of economic decisions on Thursday thought vital for reforms. These included a liberalization of prices due in December, Mr. Gaidar said.

Prices for a limited list of goods and commodities, including oil, gas, vodka and bread, would be regulated by the Russian government after freeing of prices, he said without giving details.

Joining World Bank  
The Soviet Union may be ready for World Bank membership in 12 to 18 months, but the market reforms needed to achieve this will hit vulnerable parts of the population hard, a World Bank official said on Thursday. Reuters reported from The Hague.

"The process could be speeded up and full membership might come earlier than in the expected two years," said Ardy Stouffesdijk, the first permanent World Bank representative in Moscow. But market reform would be painful, he said.

## Motorola, Sony To Join Apple in Multimedia PCs

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Sony Corp. is joining with Apple Computer Inc. and Motorola Inc. to develop multimedia personal computers by 1993, a leading economic newspaper reported Thursday.

The Nihon Keizai Shimbun said Sony and Motorola each had acquired 5 percent to 6 percent interest in General Magic Inc., which was set up in California last year and is owned primarily by Apple Computer.

The newspaper said General Magic was developing technology to produce multimedia computers that would allow users to store and retrieve moving images, voices and data. Officials of Sony, Motorola and Apple Computer Japan declined to comment.

The report, similar to one carried by the Japanese news agency Jiji Press, appeared to give further details of a link that Sony and Apple reportedly have been negotiating since early October, and that they hope to have in place by year-end.

The companies' reported goal has been to merge Sony's next generation of consumer-electronics hardware with Apple's easy-to-use computer software.

Jiji Press said Sony had sought the joint venture to stimulate its slowly growing personal-computer business. Apple sought Sony's technological expertise in audio and visual equipment and Motorola's know-how in communications

technology to create efficient hardware for the new products, Jiji said.

Nihon Keizai said the project would develop into a large-scale U.S.-Japan joint project as the three companies were now calling on Toshiba Corp., Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. and American Telephone & Telegraph Co. to join.

Officials of Toshiba and Matsushita said their companies had not been sounded out so far. They declined to discuss details.

Sony already produces Apple-brand notebook-size personal computers and supplies the U.S. company with parts. Apple has a software tie-up with International Business Machines Corp., and Jiji said Apple planned to use its link with IBM to develop software for the new personal computers.

Apple is also planning to develop a palm-top terminal with high-quality digital sound and pictures. According to some estimates, the market for multimedia computers will be worth up to 20 trillion yen (\$154 billion) by the year 2000.

The participating companies hope the new product would provide a fresh impetus for growth at a time when appetite for their traditional product lines is low. Sony, for example, reported a 44.6 percent drop in parent current profit for the six months ended Sept. 30, to 36.92 billion yen, citing slackening demand for electronic goods worldwide. (UPI, AFP, AP, BBN)

## Agnellis Seek Control Of Perrier's Parent

By Steven Greenhouse  
New York Times Service

PARIS — In one of its biggest diversification moves outside of Italy, the Agnelli family, which controls the Fiat automobile group, launched Thursday a takeover bid for Exor SA, a French holding company that controls Perrier, the bottled-water company, and Chateau Margaux, the elite Bordeaux wine.

Officials of the Paris Bourse announced that an Agnelli holding company was bidding 1.8 billion francs (\$326 million) for 1.36 million shares of Exor, which would raise the Agnelli's holdings to two-thirds of the Paris-based company.

IFINT is offering 1,320 francs a share, a premium of 23 percent over the 1,070 francs at which Exor closed when trading in its shares was suspended on Wednesday. On Thursday, the shares closed at 1,302 francs.

Earlier this year, IFINT, the Agnelli's Luxembourg-based holding company that is making the bid, acquired a 21.8 percent stake in Exor, whose chairman, Jacques Vincent, is also chairman of Source Perrier SA.

But when the Menziesopoulos family that controls Exor agreed this week to sell the Agnelli's enough additional shares to raise their stake to more than 33 percent, the Agnelli's were required by French stock exchange rules to tender for a two-thirds stake. A senior Exor official said his company considered the Agnelli offer a friendly one.

Exor has a market capitalization of close to \$1 billion, and its holdings include more than a dozen prime office buildings in Paris and a 3 percent stake in France's giant Suez investment-banking empire. Exor has 35 percent of the shares in Source Perrier and 40 percent of its voting rights.

With this bid, Giovanni Agnelli, the chairman of Fiat, shows more than ever that his family, which controls Italy's largest industrial group, is expanding outside Italy and the auto industry.

## BNP to Pay 1.25 Billion FF For 8.8% of Air France

Reuters

PARIS — Banque Nationale de Paris will invest 1.25 billion francs (\$227 million) in Air France to buy securities equivalent to an 8.8 percent stake in the airline, the state-owned companies said Thursday.

The deal is part of Air France's effort to raise more than \$5 billion in capital to shore up its balance sheet, which has been eroded by steep losses during the last 18 months.

Air France has said it will use the money to help fund its expansion plans, which include buying 66 new aircraft over the next three years.

BNP is to subscribe to an Air France issue of 1.25 billion francs in convertible bonds. The bonds, which pay 6.5 percent interest and have a maturity of eight years, would give BNP an 8.8 percent Air France stake if fully converted.

BNP is paying slightly more and getting slightly less of Air France than initially envisaged. In July the bank, which has a strategy of buying stakes in large French companies, said it expected to pay 1 billion francs for about 10 percent of Air France.

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NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of shareholders of ATLAS FUND will be held at the Registered Office in Luxembourg, 10A, Boulevard Royal, Luxembourg, on:

Thursday 12th December, 1991 at 11 hours

for the purpose of considering the following Agenda:

1. To approve the Liquidator's report and the statement of Liquidation of Atlas Fund (in process of being liquidated) as at 25th November, 1991.
2. To approve the payment of the creditors and the distribution of the remaining net assets to the shareholders, after payment of the debts.
3. To appoint an auditor.
4. To convene an extraordinary general meeting which will rule on the following points:
  - (i) approval of the auditor's report,
  - (ii) discharge to be granted to the Liquidator, auditor and Board of Directors,
  - (iii) resolution concerning the final liquidation of the Company,
  - (iv) the keeping of accounts and company documents.

\*\*\*

The General Meeting shall be regularly constituted and shall validly deliberate on the resolutions if a quorum of shareholders representing one half of the shares outstanding is present or represented. Resolutions must be passed by an affirmative vote of two thirds of the shares present or represented at such meeting.

The shareholders on record on the date of the meeting are entitled to vote or give proxies. Proxies should arrive at the Registered Office of the Company not later than twenty-four hours before the Meeting.

The present notice and a form of proxy have been sent to all shareholders on record at 25th November, 1991.

Proxy forms are available upon request at the Registered Office of the Company.

Fiduciaire Stassen  
The Liquidator







## Soviets Curb Hard Currency

Bank Won't Pay Domestic Clients Cash Until Tuesday

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches  
MOSCOW — The only Soviet bank that foreign companies can use for foreign-currency transactions said Thursday it could not give its customers cash until Tuesday at the earliest.

The Soviet bank for foreign economic affairs, or Vneshekonombank, denied, however, that it had closed or frozen any accounts, saying such rumors merely stemmed from confusion over temporary hard-currency restrictions for Soviet citizens.

A bank spokesman said Vneshekonombank, faced with liquidity problems, had decided to suspend until next Tuesday exchanges of hard currency for rubles by Soviet state-funded organizations seeking hard currency for traveling expenses abroad and personal currency exchanges by Soviet citizens. The spokesman said the suspension did not affect foreign operations or the bank's ability to meet its foreign obligations.

"There was a decision by the board of Vneshekonombank which was misinterpreted by cash points or exchange offices around Moscow, a spokesman for the bank said. He was responding

to worries among Moscow's business community that accounts had been frozen and rumors on international capital markets that the bank had been closed.

Despite the reassurances, the decision makes doing business here more difficult and is likely to discourage foreign companies from investing in the Soviet economy.

On Thursday, American Express was forced to stop giving dollars for U.S. travelers checks because of the Vneshekonombank move. A teller, Lina Melnikova, said employees were told of the decision Thursday morning and did not expect to be able to give customers dollars for travelers checks until at least next week.

Vneshekonombank is responsible for servicing the Soviet Union's foreign debt of about \$70 billion. But it has had trouble finding hard-currency resources to maintain its good repayment record.

Vneshekonombank, which the Russian republic parliament has placed under its jurisdiction, also handles trading operations in precious metals and stones.

(AP, Reuters)

## Inflation Rises Back Above 4% In Germany

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

FRANKFURT — Inflation in Western Germany jumped back above 4 percent in November, the government said Thursday, renewing fears of a possible rise in interest rates.

Preliminary data showed that the consumer price index rose 0.4 percent in November, lifting the year-on-year rate to 4.1 percent.

The figures, sharply up on October's 3.5 percent annual rate, followed a forecast of higher-than-expected growth from Economics Minister Jürgen Möllemann.

Mr. Möllemann said in remarks to parliament that Western Germany would have "an average growth of more than 3.5 percent this year."

(Reuters, AFP)

## Bad Loans Undermine Royal Bank's Profit

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Royal Bank of Scotland Group PLC announced Thursday that its pretax profit, sapped by high provisions for bad loans, had tumbled 78 percent to £57.7 million (\$102.1 million) in the year ended Sept. 30.

With Britain's persistent economic downturn hammering both corporate and individual borrowers, the bank raised its provisions against earnings for loans that are unlikely to be fully repaid by 81 percent, to £351.1 million from £193.8 million in the previous year.

The chairman, George Younger, warned that difficult trading conditions would continue and although the bank expected to reduce bad-debt losses, "past experience has shown that this will lag behind economic recovery."

Brokerage analysts who follow the bank quickly took this, plus the bank's reduced profit margin, as an indication that profit for the 1991-92 year would be worse than they had forecast.

Royal Bank shares fell 1 penny to 167 on the day, although the full-year dividend was lifted to 8.8 pence, from 8.4.

"It was the worst performance at the operating level that we are likely to see from any of the banks," said Michael Lever, banking analyst at Smith New Court. The big four British clearing banks, unlike Royal Bank, report their annual results on a calendar basis.

Mr. Lever cut his forecast for Royal Bank's 1991-92 profit to £140.5 million from £210 million, while Nick Dobby at Robert Fleming Securities trimmed £10 million from his forecast, to £135 million.

Mr. Lever said most of the banks had managed to contain cost growth below the 10 percent level this past year, while Royal Bank's grew at that rate, far outstripping income, which was up only 4.2 percent.

The result was a deterioration in the costs-to-income ratio, a key measure of bank margins.

This rose to 64.1 percent from 60.7 percent, but still compared favorably with the overall sector.

Mr. Younger, the chairman, said that he expected benefits from cost-cutting measures taken last year to show up in the current financial year.

Before exceptional items, profit was down 68.6 percent to £75.9 million.

(Reuters, AFP)

## MEPC Profit Dips But Asset Value Shrinks by 23%

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — MEPC PLC, Britain's second-largest property company, on Thursday reported a modest fall in annual profit, but said the worst market conditions it had ever experienced cut 23 percent from the value of its assets.

The company reported pretax profit of £143.3 million (\$254 million) in the year that ended Sept. 30, compared with £149.8 million the previous year. But it said that the net value of its assets plunged to 608 pence per share when they were valued at the end of August, from 790 pence a year earlier.

Industry analysts attributed the huge reduction in the asset value to a combination of recession and vast amounts of empty office space, especially in the City, London's financial district.

MEPC shares closed 1 penny higher at 452, with the market showing relief that the net asset value had not fallen below the 600-pence level. The company paid a final dividend of 14.75 pence, making a total 20 pence for the year, against 19 pence last time.

## Investor's Europe

Frankfurt DAX	London FTSE 100 Index	Paris CAC 40
1750	2700	1900
1650	2600	1800
1550	2500	1700
1450	2400	1600
1350	2300	1500
1250	2200	1400
1150	2100	1300
1050	2000	1200
950	1900	1100
850	1800	1000
750	1700	900
650	1600	800
550	1500	700
450	1400	600
350	1300	500
250	1200	400
150	1100	300
50	1000	200
0	900	100

Sources: Reuters, AFP

## Very briefly:

- Rolls-Royce, the luxury carmaker owned by Vickers PLC, cut another 260 jobs because of slow sales in Britain and the United States.
- Christian Dior Group is examining spinning off its couture business including haute couture and ready-to-wear clothing for men and women, according to a prospectus for the public offering of the company's shares.
- Norway's current-account surplus rose sharply to 29.2 billion kroner (\$4.6 billion) in the January-September period, compared with 9.4 billion kroner in the same period a year ago.
- Johnson Matthey PLC, the precious-metals concern, said pretax profit in the six months that ended in September amounted to £32.6 million (\$57.7 million), almost unchanged from £32.5 million a year earlier.
- The EC Commission and Romania signed a loan agreement for 375 million Euros (\$475 million).
- Fujitsu Microelectronics' first microchip plant in Europe, at Newton Aycliffe in northeast England, was opened by Queen Elizabeth II at a ceremony also attended by the Fujitsu chairman, Takuma Yamamoto.
- Deutsche Lufthansa AG reported a pretax profit of 172 million Deutsche marks (\$107 million) in the third quarter, due partly to a strong performance from domestic operations. It gave no figures for last year.
- Vereniging van Effectenbezitters, the Dutch small-shareholders association, will proceed with a suit against Philips Electronics NV, claiming it misled shareholders by being too optimistic during the first part of 1990.
- BREL, the British train-manufacturing group, is to cut 932 jobs, or almost 20 percent of its work force, as part of a restructuring plan.
- DAF NV, the Dutch truckmaker, plans to shed 1,600 jobs over the next two years to reduce costs; DAF employs 14,000 people.
- Veba AG, the German utility and trading company, will announce plans Friday afternoon to restructure the group.
- TransManche Link, the consortium building the Channel Tunnel, agreed to give 14 days' notice should it decide to hold up work on the project, losing a dispute in court with Eurotunnel, the tunnel's owner.
- Mercedes said it decided against a comeback into Formula One motor racing because it wanted to woo clients in the future by solving environmental problems rather than by winning grand prix races.

Reuters, AFP, AP, BBC

## Metallgesellschaft: The Soviet Formula

By Richard E. Smith

FRANKFURT — Heinz Schimmelbusch, chairman of Metallgesellschaft AG, expects his company's business with Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union to rise from a current 10 percent of revenue toward 20 percent in five years, in spite of the region's uncertainties.

As chief of one of the largest and most experienced Western companies in the Soviet market, Mr. Schimmelbusch said in an interview that success required imaginative financing and the maximum use of the area's own production capacities to avoid straining its ability to pay for imports.

Metallgesellschaft, a diversified metals processor and engineering firm with sales last year of nearly 20 billion Deutsche marks (\$12.7 billion), has always been drawn to the area's mineral and energy resources and has built 125 plants in Russia over the last 70 years. Soviet contracts helped keep the company afloat during the Depression of the 1930s and a large team of Metallgesellschaft personnel found

themselves stranded in Moscow when Germany invaded the country in 1941.

"It is our natural market," Mr. Schimmelbusch said. "Our services are tied to plants which will be producing no matter what happens politically," he said. "This is at least what history tells us."

Metallgesellschaft was a prime contractor in the Tengiz complex near the Caspian Sea, which produces 3 million metric tons of oil a year and is being extensively enlarged. Many of its other activities focus on extraction of Russia's immense reserves of nonferrous metals such as copper, zinc, aluminum, nickel and tungsten.

Mr. Schimmelbusch noted that various kinds of trade financing that use material deliveries as collateral were at the moment a better approach than more risk-laden direct investments.

Since Russia and other emerging political units have resources but little foreign exchange, he said that investors must also help their production units in the East to avoid

costly imports as much as possible. "You can reduce problems immensely by using local deliveries and by getting local plants to manufacture essential parts," he said.

For this reason, Metallgesellschaft and a number of other companies are especially interested in the possibilities of converting the Soviet Union's vast military plant and personnel to civilian projects.

Earlier this month, Mr. Schimmelbusch spoke in Moscow with officials in the Ministry of Defense Industry and he met with Boris N. Yeltsin, president of the Russian republic, in Bonn last week to discuss possible projects.

Although Metallgesellschaft in the past limited itself largely to sales of technology and turn-key plants, Mr. Schimmelbusch said it was considering more investments in place and that in Russia a prime area for investment was the environmental field.

"A lot has to be done quickly, intensively, and this is very much on the minds of the population, of politicians and of each industrial decision-maker," he said.

## EUROPE: At Maastricht Summit Meeting, Agreement on EC Working Conditions Could Be Sticking Point

(Continued from page 1)

warning flags in London over EC interference in domestic labor matters. The commission, however, still plans to discuss a directive on work hours at a meeting Tuesday of social affairs ministers.

"Conservatives consider the transformation of labor laws that had crippled the British economy a crowning achievement of the Thatcher years," a British diplomat said. "As long as this government is

in power, they will not allow that gain to be reversed."

Labor union leaders, however, warned earlier this week against weakening the draft text dealing with social issues in an attempt to satisfy British objections. The European Trade Union Confederation threatened a Community-wide campaign of industrial action to put pressure on national parliaments to reject any further compromises.

"If Britain's Conservative government isn't ready to follow, then an opt-out clause in the social area will have to be considered for Britain," said Emilio Gabaglio, the union group's general secretary. "But the others must stick with the Dutch text."

Other EC countries have already agreed to an opt-out provision that would allow Britain to sign an agreement on monetary union without committing itself to accept

a future single European currency. But for all the public controversy in London over imposition of a single currency, Tory objections to pan-European social legislation may be even greater.

"We all suspect that, when the time comes, the British will decide to join a common currency because they see it in their long-run interest," said a senior German official in Bonn. "You cannot say the same thing about the social agenda."

Even if they wanted to, British officials realize they ultimately cannot block the development of a European central bank managing a common currency if other countries are prepared to go ahead with it on their own. But they are in a position, despite the risk that a Maastricht failure would ruin Mr. Major's reelection prospects next year, to veto a broader political agreement.

"We won't be panicked by those

who use misleading analogies about missing the train," Peter Lilley, British Secretary of Trade, said recently. "This train can't leave the station unless we're aboard."

Economists at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development argue that in order to foster the creation of new jobs and reduce unemployment, Europe needs less labor regulation, not more.

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## SPORTS

# Oklahoma State Downs Pittsburgh To Gain NIT Final

The Associated Press

Byron Houston had one of those nights of which big men usually only dream or fool around about at practice.

The 6-foot-7, 250-pound (201-meter, 113-kilogram) power player went outside to help No. 11 Oklahoma State advance to the championship game of the Big Apple National Invitation Tournament at Madison Square Garden.

The senior matched his career total for 3-pointers with five during a 34-point, 15-rebound effort in the Cowboys' 74-63 semifinal victory over No. 24 Pittsburgh on Wednesday night.

Oklahoma State (4-0) will play No. 18 Georgia Tech in the championship game Friday night. The Yellow Jackets advanced with a 120-107 victory over Texas.

"I think people that don't know Byron think of him only as an inside power player, and I was glad he had a chance to take some shots from the perimeter because he is an outstanding shooter," said Oklahoma State's coach, Eddie Sutton. "I was happy with the way he broke it open from 3-point range when he seized the opportunity."

No. 18 Georgia Tech 120, Texas 107: The Yellow Jackets spread their scoring around as Malcolm Mackey had 28 points and Matt Geiger and Jon Barry added 25 each. Georgia Tech took big leads three times, but Texas (2-1) just could not rally a third time.

"We lost our composure, but we didn't lose our guts," said Georgia Tech's coach, Bobby Cremins. "When they cut it to two Malcolm and Matt got the big baskets."

Texas was within 70-68 with 14:56 to play after having trailed 15-2 after three minutes and 50-30 with 6:05 to play in the first half. But the Longhorns ran out of comeback when Georgia broke from the two-point lead with a 19-7 run.

Dexter Cambridge led Texas with 23 points.

Michigan State 86, No. 2 Arkansas 71: Shawn Roper, a freshman guard, scored 22 points, seven during a game-breaking second-half run, as Michigan State won the Maui Invitational.

Arkansas trailed by 57-53 in the

second half before Michigan State went on a 21-7 run over an eight-minute span to make it 78-60 with 5:34 left. Roper, the only Spartan named to the all-tournament team, had 7 of his 16 second-half points during the run, and Matt Steigenga had 8 points.

No. 6 North Carolina 68, Houston 65: In Houston, Hubert Davis scored 14 of his 29 points in the final 10:17 as the Tar Heels rallied from a 15-point halftime deficit.

The Tar Heels (2-0) did not score in the first 6:15 and had just one basket in the final 3:38 of the first half as the Cougars (1-1) took a 42-27 halftime lead behind Sam Mack's 21 first-half points.

North Carolina outscored Houston, 11-2, to start the second half and Davis' 3-pointer with 6:16 left gave North Carolina its first lead.

No. 9 LSU 96, Middle Tennessee State 65: In Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Shaquille O'Neal finished with 22 points, 13 rebounds and 5 blocked shots. O'Neal had eight points in a first-half 18-2 run. He also sat out more than 14 minutes. Jamie Brandon scored 18 points for LSU.

No. 16 Alabama 105, Tennessee Tech 85: Alabama was spotty in its 800th home game, but the Crimson Tide (2-0) did make 10 of 20 3-pointers.

James Robinson scored 27 points, 21 in the second half, and Latrell Sowell got 26, 20 in the first half. Alabama led 48-41 at halftime. Robinson scored Alabama's first 10 points in the second half.

No. 17 Georgetown 101, Hawaii-Loa 76: Charles Harrison scored 29 points and Alonzo Mourning had 24 points, 10 rebounds and four blocks as Georgetown struggled before winning its season-opener in Honolulu.

Georgetown led 60-56 with 12:24 to play when Hawaii-Loa's Roger Higgins, David Mase and Andy Gardner quickly picked up their fourth foul and had to sit down. The Hoyas then got 12 points from Kevin Miller during a 17-8 run for a 77-64 lead with 6:51 left.

Minnesota 69, No. 25 Arizona State 37: In the fifth-place game at the Maui Invitational, Arizona State was held to the lowest number of points ever scored in the tournament.



The ball falling loose as the Lions' George Jamison grabs the Bears' quarterback, Jim Harbaugh.

# Lions Defeat the Bears, 16-6

The Associated Press

PONTIAC, Michigan — The Detroit Lions took advantage of a rare display of turnovers by Chicago on Thursday, beating the Bears, 16-6, to tie them for first place in the NFC Central Division.

The Lions (9-4) were shaky on offense but their defense intercepted four Jim Harbaugh passes and recovered two fumbles. Chicago, which lost its second straight game, entered the game with just 22 turnovers all season.

Erik Kramer threw a 9-yard scoring pass to Robert Clark in the first quarter, and Eddie Murray kicked three field goals, the final one from 37 yards with 2:50 left, to pace the Lions. Murray's other field goals were from 21 and 50 yards.

Barry Sanders, who ran for 220 yards and four touchdowns on Sunday against Minnesota, was held to 62 yards on 19 carries by the Bears.

In the only other game on the Thanksgiving Day holiday, the Dallas Cowboys were playing the Pittsburgh Steelers in Irving, Texas.

Mistakes plagued the Bears from the start. Trailing, 13-6, in the fourth quarter, the Bears drove from their 18 to their 47 where they had a second-and-8. Then, a Harbaugh pass intended for Dennis Gentry was intercepted at midfield by George Jamison.

The linebacker headed upfield and fumbled, but the ball was picked up by teammate Melvin Jenkins at the 33 and he carried it to the Bears 20.

The Lions offense, which had only two first downs in the second half, could move the ball only one yard on that series. But it was enough for Murray's third field goal.

Kevin Butler kicked field goals of 27 and 22 yards for Chicago, but missed a 37-yarder early in the fourth quarter when Detroit was leading, 13-6.

Harbaugh, setting a team record for completions, hit on 27 of 47 passes for 244 yards. But he threw four interceptions. Harbaugh has 235 completions this season, breaking the previous mark of 225 set by Earl Wade in 1962.

Mistakes played a key role in the first half when a Chicago fumble led to a Lions touchdown and a Kramer interception led to a Bears field goal.

Detroit's Mel Gray opened the game with a 45-yard kickoff return and the Lions appeared to have a touchdown five plays later.

But Derek Tennell was called for holding on Sanders' dash into the end zone from a first-and-goal at the 1. Four plays later Murray kicked a 21-yard field goal.

Midway through the first period, Harbaugh ran for 9 yards but was hit by Jamison and fumbled into the arms of Bennie Blades, who returned it 4 yards to the Lions' 33.

Kramer went to work, completing 4 of 6 passes as the Lions mounted an 11-play scoring drive, capped by Kramer's 9-yard scoring toss to Clark for a 10-0 lead with a minute left in the quarter.

Harbaugh had two third-down conversions, a 6-yard pass to Neal Anderson and a 10-yarder to Wendell Davis as the Bears went 59 yards in 14 plays for Butler's 27 yard field goal with 7:55 left in the second quarter.

Six plays later, Kramer's pass for Tennell was intercepted by Mark Carrier, who returned it 39 yards to the Lions' 43. Ten plays later, with seven seconds left in the half, Butler kicked a 22-yard field goal.

# For Lions, a Thanksgiving Story With Much to Think About

By Mike Freeman

Washington Post Service

PONTIAC, Michigan — It was perhaps difficult for Mike Utley to give thanks on Thanksgiving Day. He has his life to be grateful for. He has caring teammates to be grateful for. He has a family that loves him by his side.

But Mike Utley cannot walk. It happened in a flash during a three-hour football game, and it changed his life.

Utley, 25, an offensive lineman for the Detroit Lions, was paralyzed from his chest down in a freak accident, a fall on his head, during Detroit's 21-10 National Football League victory over the Los Angeles Rams here Nov. 17. He was passing blocking against David Rucker, a Rams rookie defensive lineman, on the first play of the fourth quarter.

After an eight-day stay in Detroit's Henry Ford Hospital, a stay that included two major operations on his spine, Utley was released on Tuesday to begin rehabilitation and his second life.

In the two operations, Dr. Philip Mayer, Ford's chief of spinal surgery, removed bone fragments and pieces of spinal disks and inserted a wire to stabilize and brace Utley's neck.

Utley can talk, and move his arms and

hands slightly, and soon will be able to fully turn his head. But doctors say it would take a miracle for him to regain feeling and movement in his legs.

It has come to this for Mike Utley, a free spirit who, ever since high school, loved to ride motorcycles and play sports and listen to heavy metal music.

"Mike is a hero at our school," said Utley's football coach at Kennedy High in Seattle, Tom Merrill. "Everyone at school followed his career."

His injury has led to emotions so varied and difficult to define that at times Lions players are simply at a loss for words. What happened reminds them how human they are; just how fragile their awesome athletes' bodies are.

For Darryl Stingley, the first NFL player permanently paralyzed in a game, in 1978, watching Utley being carried off the field meant reliving his own nightmare.

Utley has even made those who do not play football think. Think about walking, think about taking a stroll down the street for granted.

This is about the sights and sounds of a tragedy. But also about courage and strength. Of hope. This is about life, Mike Utley's and others close to him, and how

they all were tossed into turmoil on a Sunday afternoon.

Before the Lions played the Vikings in Minneapolis on Sunday in the first game after Utley's accident, Detroit players gathered in a huddle near midfield. There was a moment of silence for Utley. Some prayed for him. Some cried for him.

Players wore T-shirts with "Thumbs Up" on the front and "Utley" on the back. The idea was spawned from the day Utley was injured. As he was being taken off the field on a stretcher, he looked over at his teammates and gave them thumbs up.

After the Vikings game, a 34-14 Lions victory, players dedicated the game to Utley, who watched it on television from his bed and ate two pizzas while doing so.

"We felt we had an obligation to win this game for Mike," said Barry Sanders, who had 220 yards rushing against the Vikings.

Coach Wayne Fontes said: "They played their hearts out for Mike Utley back home in Detroit. Mike, if you're listening, God bless you."

There seems to be two reactions from players when they are asked to talk about Utley's injury. One is denial. It could not happen to me. Denial is the defense mechanism. If you do not think about it, it will not happen to you.

The Viking center, Kirk Lowdermilk, said: "The thing with Utley—it was a freak thing. It was an accident. You can't worry about things like that or you get hurt."

The other reaction is fright. Players were tentative.

Said the New York Giant nose tackle Erik Howard: "They say bad things happen in threes. Utley and I both played at Washington State, and we both have had back injuries in the past. It's scary."

And the Lions. They are caught in a sort of Twilight Zone of emotions. They do not want to dedicate every game to Utley, because that would mean he is no longer a part of them. But, deep inside, they know he will never be back playing with them.

"I hate to say we want to go out and win every game for Mike," said Erik Kramer, the Detroit quarterback. "I guess because I think he is still a part of this team."

"This whole thing confirms that you have to live life to its fullest," he added. Stingley, paralyzed by a defensive back's hit when he was a wide receiver with the New England Patriots, was watching the game on TV when Utley was carried off.

Stingley saw himself "lying there again." Stingley knows what Utley is going through, what in all likelihood lies ahead. "Every day for him is going to be like

fourth and goal," he said. "Some days he may not want to deal with that. I'm not talking suicide. I never thought about it. But each person is different. I had too much to live for."

"Early on is the hardest," Stingley added. "I don't know how to put it into words. It's like starting life all over again in another body. You get frustrated because you know what you used to be able to do. It makes you angry. It makes you difficult to be around. I know I was like that at first. But I decided I was going to take on my situation and face it head on."

For Utley's teammates, a chunk of the team's soul is gone.

"I guess the joy of winning, there might be something missing a little bit, for the personality," said the linebacker Chris Spielman.

"When you play you are so focused on the game, that's really your only escape from it," he said. "But before a game, after a game, every day it's on your mind. Because he's your brother, man. You go to war with him every week. Now you have an empty feeling. That's the way it is and you have to deal with it. And we are. Because he would want it that way."

"We owe it to him," Spielman added. "and we owe it to ourselves."

## BOOKS

### NO MINOR CHORDS: My Days in Hollywood

By André Previn. 148 pages. \$22.50. Doubleday, 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10103.

Reviewed by Jonathan Yardley

THOUGH critical opinion varies as to the breadth and depth of André Previn's accomplishments as conductor and pianist, of this there can be no doubt: He is one of the most prominent figures in the world of classical music. He has been musical director of the Pittsburgh and Los Angeles orchestras and is now conductor laureate of the London Symphony Orchestra. He has led these and many other major orchestras in concert and on dozens of recordings.

But there is a skeleton in Previn's closet. For about two decades, beginning in 1946 when he was 16 years old, Previn worked as composer, arranger and conductor in the musical sweatshops of Hollywood, mostly those at MGM. He was uncommonly good at this trade—he got 13 Academy Award nominations and won four Oscars—but it is not a trade held in high regard among critics of "serious" music. "Music critics have made it quite clear," he says, "that any composer who ever contributed a four-bar jingle to a film was to be referred to as a 'Hollywood composer' from then on, even if the rest of his output were to consist solely of liturgical organ sonatas."

Previn has labored under this disadvantage, and more: He also has worked, successfully if less remuneratively, as a jazz pianist and is still admired among followers of that music for a recording of songs from "My Fair Lady" made more than three decades ago. He had fun doing all of this, but the price has been a measure of critical condescension that occasionally spills over into contempt; this clearly rankles, so it is difficult not to believe that self-justification was a chief motive in the writing of "No Minor Chords," a memoir of what Previn calls "my other life."

But whatever the exact nature of the well from which it springs, what really matters is that "No Minor Chords" is an uncommonly amusing, literate and interesting piece of work. It contains enough personal reminiscence and movie-studio gossip to make it worth the price. It also makes a persuasive case that many of the musicians with whom Previn worked—and thus, by association, Previn himself—were "artists and technicians of enormous talents, artistic integrity and amazing knowledge."

Previn did not exactly enter this world as a prodigy, being a moldy oldster of 16, but he was remarkably precocious. His family had escaped Nazi Germany in 1939 and come to Los Angeles, lured by a dream of stardom under the California sun. His father, who had been a prosperous lawyer in Berlin, was reduced to giving piano lessons in the United States; it was André who assumed much of the burden of supporting the family,

and it was MGM that paid for the strawberries.

If a lot of what he did there was hackwork, it gave him "a thorough schooling in the practical aspects of music making" and permitted him to "stand up in front of an orchestra of superlative players" and refine his conducting skills. He worked on dozens of films, from the trivial ("Challenge to Lassie," "Hot Summer Night," "Small Town Girl") to the excellent: "Bad Day at Black Rock," "It's Always Fair Weather," "Elmer Gantry," "My Fair Lady."

"I have led a variety of musical lives and have enjoyed a giant potpourri of professional situations," Previn writes, and if anything he understates the facts; a good case can be made that no one else has operated at so high a level in so many different genres of contemporary music. Along the way Previn has met just about everybody, and he has stories to tell about many of them; his anecdotes about Ava Gardner, Jascha Heifetz, Busby Berkeley, Dan Dailey and Lenny Bruce are especially juicy.

But what really matters is that Previn was able to use Hollywood to his own purposes without succumbing to its temptations; his account of how he did this provides the real meat of his memoir, and lifts it well above the level of mere kiss-and-tell Hollywood chatter. It doesn't hurt that he knows how to write.

Jonathan Yardley is on the staff of The Washington Post.

## BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

THOSE who carry an umbrella when the sun is shining, and those who go without when storm clouds threaten, are extremists neglecting circumstances. In bridge, as in life, the context should determine whether pessimism or optimism is indicated.

There was an excess of optimism on the diagrammed deal. Almost every North-South pair reached four spades from the South position, usually after bidding similar to that shown. The opening lead was often a heart, and South had to choose between optimism and pessimism.

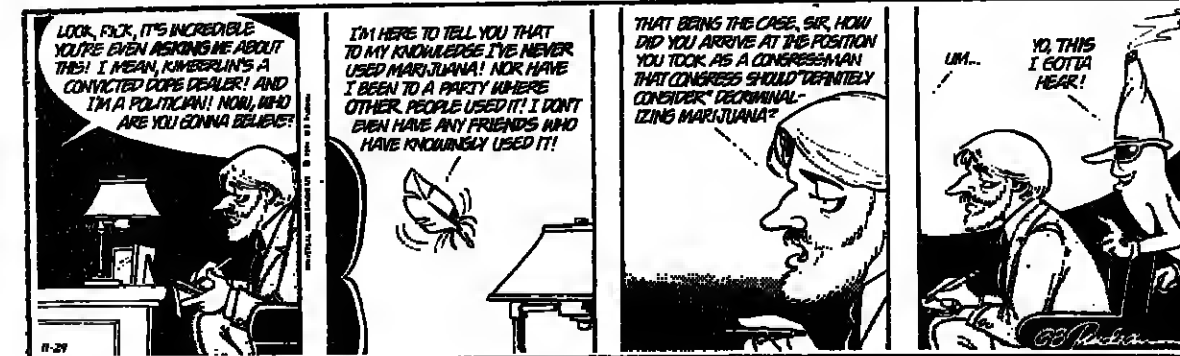
The optimists, seeking overtricks, played low from dummy in the hope that West had led from the king. They were quickly defeated when East produced the king and shifted to diamonds. Notice that the jack was a more effective shift than the routine four.

A few pessimists realized that West was very likely to have the diamond ace in view of his failure to lead the unbid suit. The risk of playing low from dummy at the first trick was therefore considerable, and they put up the ace, led the club king and overtook with the ace. The queen and jack of clubs provided discards for dummy's two diamonds, and South was well-placed. He surrendered a heart to the king, and could not be prevented from taking 10 tricks by crossruffing.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ A J 8 6	♥ A 10 8 6 4	♠ K 7 5 2	♥ K 3
♦ 2	♣ K	♦ Q 10 9 5	♥ Q J 6
		♠ 10 7 6 5	♥ 9 8 3 2
SOUTH (D)			
♠ 10 9 5	♥ 2	♠ 4	♥ 10 8 6 4
♦ K 9 3	♣ A Q J 8	♦ 10 7 6 5	♥ 9 8 3 2

Neither side was vulnerable. The bidding: South 1♣, West 1♥, North 1♠, East 2♠, South 3♠, West 4♠, North 5♠, East 6♠. West led the heart five.

## DOONESBURY

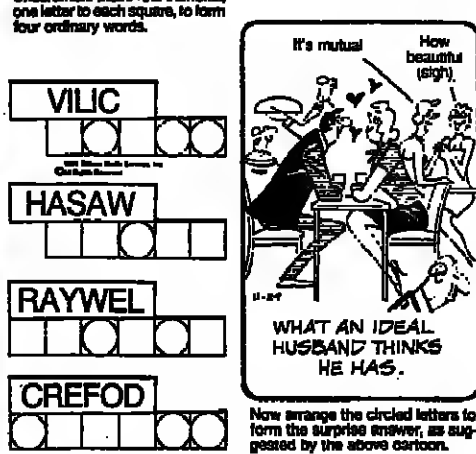


## DENNIS THE MENACE



## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer here: AN (Answers tomorrow)

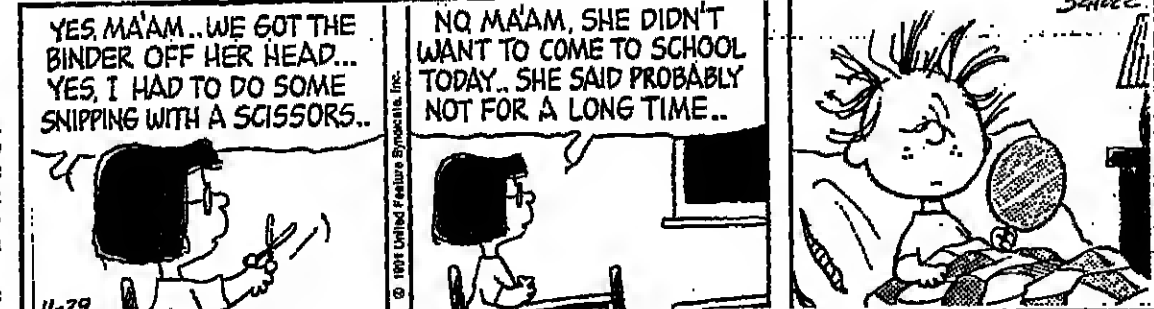
Yesterday's Jumbles: OWEN COUPE VIRLE AFFRID

Answer: Yesterday's Jumbles: OWEN COUPE VIRLE AFFRID

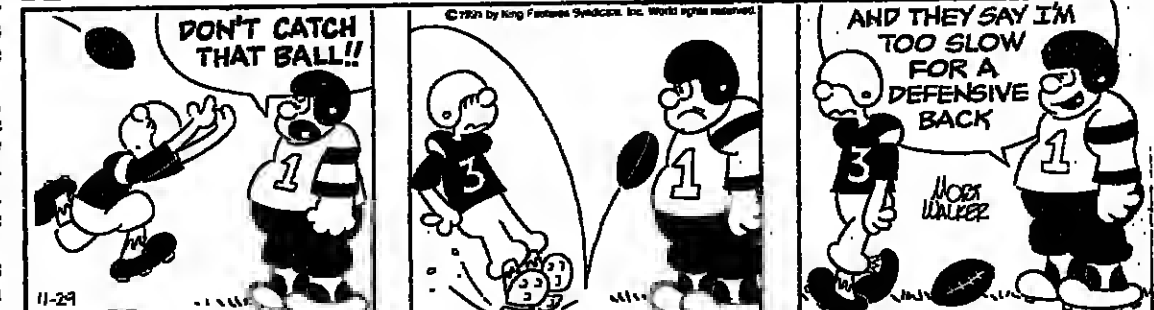
## BLONDE



## PEANUTS



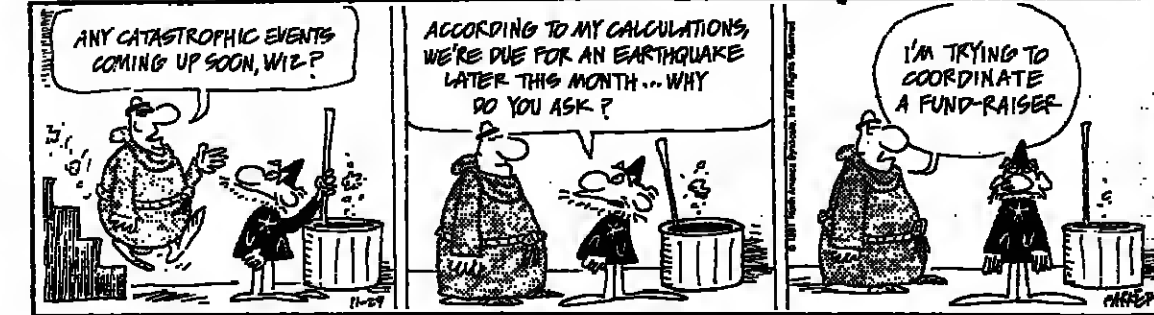
## BEEBLE BAILEY



## CALVIN AND HOBBS



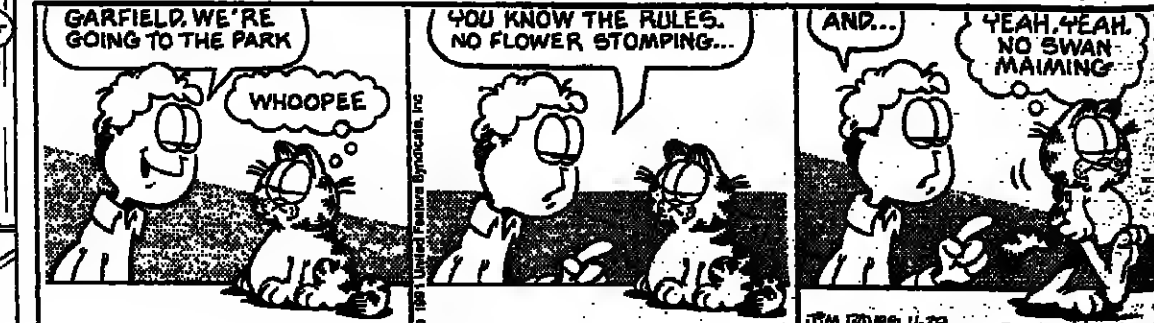
## WIZARD of ID



## REX MORGAN



## GARFIELD





## SPORTS

## Bluff or Blunder, Noah Is Finally Out of Davis Cup

By Sandra Bailey

International Herald Tribune

LYON — Yannick Noah, whose trademark as a player has always been his free form and acrobatics, walked out on the tight-rope on Thursday and left those assembled for the draw of the Davis Cup final between France and the United States looking on in amazement.

Noah, 31, the captain of the French team, who for two months has tantalized the press and tennis establishment with the chance that he would activate himself as a doubles player for the final, declared his team on Thursday as the rules require him to do.

But he left himself off, apparently under the mistaken impression that he could pull a switch later.

"He's not the first captain to misunderstand the rules, no matter how clearly they're written," said Christopher Stokes, marketing director of the International Tennis Federation, the governing body for Davis Cup competition as well as for the Grand Slam events. "I feel sorry for him."

Noah named Guy Forget, No. 7 in the world and whose leadership of the team was never in doubt, No. 159 Henri Leconte, No. 54 Arnaud Boetsch and No. 41 Olivier Delaite. He then penciled in Forget and Leconte to play singles and Boetsch and Forget for doubles.

Robert Seguso and Ken Flach, the veteran U.S. Davis Cup doubles team, said they were surprised Noah had not activated himself. The U.S. captain, Tom Gorman, left the press conference saying it was "very strange."

"I won \$20," Gorman said.

But wait: Noah stepped in to say he was not out of the running at all.

"I still have the possibility for myself," he said.

Pressed on the rules, Noah paused, then said: "If Guy got injured or Henri had a problem, I could put myself on the team. If not, I won't."

Davis Cup rules allow Noah, or any captain, to make a lineup change up to an hour before a match. But the person being put in must be on the team declared at the draw.

Others agreed that either Noah was doing a dramatic bluff and had intended all along not to play, or he had in fact failed to comprehend the rule.

"But the referee understands it," said Jan Barnes, chief spokesman for the ITF, referring to referee Stefan Fransson.

The play begins Friday, with Andre Agassi, ranked 10th in the world, taking on Forget in the first match. Then No. 6 Pete Sampras plays Leconte, whose full recovery from back surgery in July is still an issue.

Should Leconte fare well, U.S. players said they would not be surprised to see him replacing Boetsch in the doubles match on Saturday. Boetsch himself appeared unimpressed by the speculation.

"We want to win, not only participate in the final," he said. "Even the doubles players, we will see what happens first in singles."

Saturday seemed to be too far ahead for Noah to look.

"I want to take one step at a time," he said in response to a question about Leconte pairing with Forget. "We'll see tomorrow night how they feel and what we'll do about it."

Clearly, Noah's rankings of No. 190 in singles and No. 234 in doubles do not cry out for his inclusion. He has played in only seven tournaments this year.

Noah played doubles with Leconte in the Paris Open at the end of October, making it to the third round before being eliminated by — auspiciously — Flach and Seguso. Afterward, there were fewer questions about Leconte's physical progress and more about Noah's inability to effectively return serves.

This is fairly routine business for the United States, which beat Australia to win the 1990 Davis Cup, so the Americans left the theatrical twists to their opponents. The biggest U.S. concern seemed to be the menu for Thanksgiving Day dinner.

"We're finally going to get a good meal," said Flach, blissfully American in the gastronomic capital of France. "Turkey, potatoes, corn, the good stuff."

To ease the pain of having to suffer through this most American of holidays in this city of bistros that offer tripe sausage and Beaujolais Nouveau, the U.S. team hunkered down in the Holiday Inn. Dinner was being prepared, however, by the French chef Paul Bocuse, who is credited with introducing nouvelle cuisine to France and the world.

But this is no holiday in France and certainly not cause for pause for Noah and his team. Not since 1983 has France stood here, on the threshold of a Davis Cup final.

Then as now, the opponent was the United States and the leader of the French team was Noah, who beat Gene Mayer for France's only point in the 4-1 defeat.

France is in a lather. Television stations

are replaying highlights from that weekend in 1982, the sports daily L'Equipe splashed a full-page color photo of Forget on front page and inside used his calculation as a headline: "France: une chance sur trois," or one chance in three.

There was a time when French tennis and the Davis Cup were all but synonymous. From 1925 to 1933, France reached the final nine straight times, carried along by the elegance of the Four Musketeers: Jean Borotra, Henri Lacoste, Henri Cochet and Jacques Brugnon. In five of those years, the victim in the final was the United States.

But the glory days are long gone, and after the Musketeers faded from the scene, so did French tennis, with France not reappearing in a Davis Cup until 1982 in Grenoble. The next year, a 23-year-old named Yannick Noah swept to victory in the French Open and the spirit of the game grew again in France.

This Davis Cup team has been called, and in fact is, "Yann's Band." Noah sits in the middle of his players in press conferences, not off to one side, and he turns easily to exchange jokes and laughs. In the locker room after matches, the single "Saga Africain" off Noah's debut album, "Blasé et What!" can be heard. Forget's 18-month-old son is Noah's godson.

"As much as I have dreamed about winning some big matches and some big tournaments, I dreamed of winning the Davis Cup as a player," Noah said. "But it doesn't matter if I'm holding the racket. I feel so close to these guys."



Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi, who face Henri Leconte and Guy Forget in the first singles matches.

## SIDELINES

## Soviet Officials Plan Hockey League

HAMBURG (AP) — Soviet officials plan to set up a professional ice hockey league soon in an attempt to stop top stars from joining the National Hockey League, the coach of the national team said in an interview published Thursday.

Viktor Tikhonov, the Soviet coach, said in an interview with the German magazine Sports that Soviet hockey officials had planned to start the league in 1995, "but life is forcing us to introduce it now."

He did not specify when the league was expected to start. Dozens of top Soviet stars have joined National Hockey League teams in recent seasons. Tikhonov said the exodus of the best Soviet players was comparable to "a thief stealing the best things from your house over and over."

## Boxer Dies After Peru Amateur Bout

LIMA (AP) — An amateur bantamweight boxer, José Malca, died Thursday in his third day of coma after losing a three-round fight Monday, doctors said.

Malca, 18, was hospitalized Monday night in the port of Ilo, 890 kilometers (550 miles) southeast of Lima, after a bout in the National Boxing Championship, the director of the Ilo state hospital director said. Malca never awoke from his coma, which was reportedly caused by a cerebral hemorrhage. Malca's death follows that of Clive Skewes, a South African boxer, who died in a coma Tuesday.

## For the Record

Japan's Horse Racing School has accepted its first three women entrants, who are expected to be granted their jockey licenses in 1995. Last year, the American jockey Julie Krone became the first woman to ride in a Japanese horse race.

Konstantin Tszyu, 22, the only Soviet boxer to win a gold medal in last week's World Amateur Championships, announced Thursday that he planned to turn professional and base himself in Australia.

Tom Webster, the Los Angeles Kings' coach, was suspended for 12 games by the National Hockey League on Wednesday for throwing a stick at referee Kerry Fraser. The Kings also were fined \$100,000 for the incident during the Nov. 16 game against the Detroit Red Wings.

Gian Franco Kasper, the head of the International Ski Federation, on Thursday denied reports that the body had granted recognition to the breakaway Yugoslav republic of Croatia, but said that it would probably do so next year.

## Red Star Team Is Down, But Not Yet Out of Cup

The new league-style European Club Champions' Cup semifinal format has spared Red Star Belgrade, the titleholder, from elimination in the prestigious soccer tournament.

Red Star fell, 2-0, to Sampdoria in the first match of the semifinal series in Genoa on Wednesday. Internationals Roberto Mancini and Gianluca Vialli struck the goals against the Yugoslavs, which gave the struggling Italian champions a perfect start to the semifinal series and put them on top of Group A.

In the other Group A game, Panathinaikos Athens held Anderlecht to a 0-0 draw in Belgium.

Barcelona, reduced to 10 men for most of the game, scraped a 3-2 home victory over Sparta Prague, second-round conquerors of Marseille, in Group B.

Barcelona midfielder Guillermo Amor was sent off a minute after scoring the opening goal against Sparta Prague in the 16th minute for a foul on Roman Kukaletskiy.

Czechoslovak defender Josef Vrabec equalized from the ensuing free kick. Goals from Michael Laudrup and Jose Bakero put Barcelona ahead 3-1 before Václav Nemecek scored again.

In the third round of the UEFA Cup competition, a cracking free kick from Egyptian international Ibrahim Hassan that curled into the top corner of the net gave Natchat Xamax a surprise victory over the Spanish league leader, Real Madrid.

The Danish club BK 1903 Copenhagen had goalkeeper Palle Petersen sent off in the 35th minute for a foul on forward Karaman Unal but still managed a 1-0 victory at home over Trabzonspor of Turkey. Lars Hoyer Nielsen scored the goal.

Czechoslovak international Tomas Skuhravy's 21st-minute goal gave Genoa a 1-0 victory over Steaua Bucharest in Romania.

Japin Named Top Player

Papin-Pierre Papin, the captain of Marseille and the French national soccer team, has been voted Player of the Year by World Soccer magazine. The Associated Press reported Thursday from London.

Papin, who has led France to an unbeaten record for more than two years, is the first player not based in Italy to win the award.

The French national team was voted Team of the Year and its coach, Michel Platini, was selected as Manager of the Year.

Platini is the first person to have been chosen as player and manager of the year.



Tomas Skuhravy of Genoa beating Steaua Bucharest's Corneliu Cristescu to a high ball in their UEFA Cup match in Romania.

## Dodgers Obtain Davis, Sending Belcher to Reds

LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles Dodgers may have lost first baseman Eddie Murray to the New York Mets, but they traded for another big name to join Darryl Strawberry in the outfield: Eric Davis.

Davis went to the Los Angeles Dodgers on Wednesday night as part of a four-player deal that sent right-hander Tim Lincecum to the Reds. Cincinnati also got reliever John Wetteland and sent reliever Kip Gross to the Dodgers.

Eddie Murray left the Dodgers on Wednesday, agreeing with the Mets on a \$7.5 million, two-year contract. The eight-time All-Star, who will be 36 next season, became the first free agent to sign.

Murray batted .260 in 1991 with 19 homers and 96 RBIs and made \$2.8 million in the final season of a five-year, \$13.5 million contract. He also hit .125 million signing bonus from the Mets. \$3.5 million in 1992 and \$2.75 million in 1993.

A native of Los Angeles, Davis leaves the Reds after six seasons, including 1990, when they won the World Series.

"I'm happy about going home, but it's tough leaving the city of Cincinnati," Davis said.

He is going home to play with Strawberry, his boyfriend friend, after a career that has been plagued by injuries. Davis, 29, played in only 89

games last season, hitting .235 with 11 home runs and 33 RBIs.

Davis will make \$3.1 million in 1992 and be eligible for free agency at the end of the season.

To get Davis, the Dodgers had to give up Belcher, 30, who was 10-9 with a 2.62 ERA last season.

Belcher has a 50-38 career record and a 2.99 ERA. As a rookie in 1988, he was 12-6 with a 2.91 ERA. He had his best year the following season, going 15-12 with a 2.82 ERA, eight shutouts and 200 strikeouts.

In 1990, he was 9-9 with a 4.00 ERA. He underwent arthroscopic surgery to remove a piece of torn cartilage in his right shoulder on Sept. 11 and said several times this year that he felt no ill effects.

Belcher's acquisition greatly shores up the Reds' starting rotation, a major weakness last season. He joins Greg Swindell, recently obtained from Cleveland, as well as Jose Rijo and Tom Browning.

Wetteland, 25, was 1-0 and didn't allow an earned run in nine innings with the Dodgers last season. He spent most of 1991 at Albuquerque of the Pacific Coast League, where he went 4-3 with a 2.79 ERA and 20 saves. He is 8-12 in parts of three big-league seasons.

Gross, 27, was 6-4 with a 3.47 ERA for the Reds last season. He appeared in 29 games.

## SCOREBOARD

## BASKETBALL

## NBA Standings

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

## Atlantic Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
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Boston	9	5	.643	—
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New York	7	8	.465	1 1/2
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Miami	7	8	.465	1 1/2
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Philadelphia	6	7	.461	2
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Orlando	5	7	.417	3
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Washington	5	9	.357	4
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New Jersey	2	11	.154	6 1/2
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## Central Division

Chicago	11	2	.846	—
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Cleveland	8	5	.615	3
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Atlanta	7	7	.500	4 1/2
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Detroit	6	8	.431	5
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Milwaukee	6	9	.400	6
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Indiana	5	10	.333	7
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Charlotte	4	11	.267	8
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## WESTERN CONFERENCE

## Midwest Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
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Houston	9	5	.643	—
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San Antonio	8	6	.571	1 1/2
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Utah	8	6	.571	1 1/2
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Dallas	6	7	.461	2
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Denver	5	8	.385	4 1/2
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Minnesota	3	9	.250	6
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## Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	11	2	.846	—
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Golden State	9	4	.692	2
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Portland	9	5	.643	1 1/2
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Seattle	8	6	.571	2 1/2
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L.A. Clippers	6	9	.400	5
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Phoenix	6	9	.400	5
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Sacramento	5	10	.333	6
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## WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

L.A. Lakers	21	21	29-49
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Milwaukee	84	84	78-87
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Scott 10-17-33-33	Worthy 9-21-44-22	Selby 9-11-17	Edwards 7-16-21-16	Robinson 10-15-11	Perkins 10-15-11
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## Major College Scores

## EAST

Harvard 77, Yale 70
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Stanford 77, Duke 70
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North Carolina 77, Virginia 70
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Georgia Tech 77, Texas 70
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Michigan 77, Arizona 70
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Rice 77, Cincinnati 70
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Missouri 77, Arkansas 70
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Providence 77, Lamar 70
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## WEST

Ala.-Birmingham 77, Miss.-Valley 70
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Alabama 77, Tennessee Tech 70
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LSU 77, Middle Tenn 70
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Mississippi St. 77, Tenn.-Martin 70
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Montana St. 77, N.C.-Greensboro 70
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S. Illinois 77, W. Kentucky 70
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Southern Miss. 77, South Alabama 70
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Texas-Chattanooga 77, Tenn.-West 70
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Tulane 77, Prairie View 70
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## MIDWEST

Illinois St. 77, Ill.-Chicago 70
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NE Illinois 77, N. Illinois 70
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Southwest
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North Carolina 77, Houston 70
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Oral Roberts 77, Tennessee St. 70
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Fair West
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Air Force 77, West 70
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Arizona 77, Hawaii 70
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N. Arizona 77, Sacramento 70
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New Mexico St. 77, Utah 70
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Texas Tech 77, New Mexico 70
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Chapman 10-22-54-27	Curry 12-24-1-2-24
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Chapman 10-22-54-27	Curry 12-24-1-2-24
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Chapman 10-22-54-27	Curry 12-24-1-2-24
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Chapman 10-22-54-27	Curry 12-24-1-2-24
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Chapman 10-22-54-27	Curry 12-24-1-2-24
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Chapman 10-22-54-27	Curry 12-24-1-2-24
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Chapman 10-22-54-27	Curry 12-24-1-2-24
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Chapman 10-22-54-27	Curry 12-24-1-2-24
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Chapman 10-22-54-27	Curry 12-24-1-2-24
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## TOURNAMENTS

## PRESEASON

Georgia Tech 77, Texas 70
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Michigan 77, Arizona 70
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Rice 77, Cincinnati 70
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Missouri 77, Arkansas 70
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Providence 77, Lamar 70
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## Brando's Daughter On \$1 Million Bail

Dr. Keith Thomas's Flag Porter and Bottle Green, an ages-old beer with a range of spicy and vinous flavors.

traditional cask beer and low-alcohol bottled beer. But it remains unclear whether these changes will help the nation's 200 or so small breweries, which account for less than 1 percent of British beer consumption.

A significant consolidation in the brewing and pub industries has already taken place as companies have gone out of or merged with others and then expanded their chosen field through acquisitions and mergers.

Some companies or joint ventures, including one proposed by Allied-Lyons PLC and Carlsberg AS of Denmark, account for about 85.5 percent of British beer.

Thomas has no delusions that his port will become a mass-market product. His target is "somebody who has some interest in beer itself and is willing to try a historical beer." He also hopes it will appeal to vegetarians and those who buy organic products.

While he is beginning to make a profit, "I am not a Thatcher entrepreneur," he said. "My ambition is not making a massive amount of money. It is to be involved in the development and redevelopment of our brewing heritage. On the other hand, I want to make enough money that I can keep going."

He also dreams of owning a brewpub. "Ten years from now I would like to have a range of beers," he said.

The biologist Francis Crick, who shared the 1962 Nobel Prize (with James Watson) for his work on the structure of DNA, joins the opera star Dame Joan Sutherland in filling the two vacancies in Britain's 24-member Order of Merit, whose members are named by Queen Elizabeth II. Crick, 75, was born in England, but moved to California in 1977 to take a research post at the Salk Institute in La Jolla.

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